

## Khaddam arrives in Riyadh

RIYADH (AP) — Syrian Vice-President Abdul-Halim Khaddam arrived on Monday in Saudi Arabia to consult with King Fahd on efforts to end Lebanon's decade-old civil war and the pan-Arab situation, diplomatic sources said. The Saudi Press Agency reported the arrival of the Syrian official without providing any detail on the purpose of the unscheduled visit. It only said he was received at the airport by Prince Sultan, the defence minister, and Prince Saud Al Faisal, the foreign minister. Mr. Khaddam flew into Riyadh as fighting flared between militiamen in Beirut while their leaders remained deadlocked over a Syrian-sponsored plan to end Lebanon's strife. Mr. Khaddam mediated a draft agreement between Lebanon's three most powerful militias, but reservations by politicians excluded from the negotiations has delayed the signing of the armistice.

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## Soviet minister reiterates policy

AMMAN (Petra) — The Soviet policy vis-a-vis the Middle East conflict has always been stable and constant and Moscow has always supported the Arab people's struggle to regain their occupied territories, Minister of Culture of the Soviet Republic of Kabardino Balkar, Kolistan Avandive, said Monday. "I believe that the Soviet Union's policy in the Middle East has been clear on several occasions: It is a constant and stable policy which supports all Arab people who are in constant struggle to liberate their occupied lands," Mr. Avandive said. At a press conference held at the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, Mr. Avandive said he will return to the Kingdom in the near future at the head of a large cultural delegation. Mr. Avandive also invited Jordanian cultural troupes to visit the Soviet Union. Also speaking during the press conference was Mr. Bahjat Al Talhoui, president of the Jordan-Soviet Friendship Society, who praised to the Soviet Union's stand towards the Middle East conflict.

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## Nov. 25 declared public holiday

AMMAN (J.T.) — All government departments and public institutions will be closed on Monday, Nov. 25, on the occasion of the Prophet Muhammad's birthday anniversary, an official communiqué issued by the Prime Ministry said Monday. All nightclubs, liquor stores and bars will be closed on the occasion and religious ceremonies will be held in mosques around the Kingdom.

## Murphy to visit Mideast after summit

AMMAN (J.T.) — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy will visit Amman and other Middle East capitals after the Geneva summit starting on Monday between U.S. President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. U.S. officials told Reuters on Monday. The officials did not disclose dates for Mr. Murphy's tour, but they said he was expected to brief leaders in the region on the summit talks and discuss Middle East issues.

## Arafat arrives in New Delhi

NEW DELHI (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived Monday night on a three-day official visit. Mr. Arafat is scheduled to address a youth conference of the Non-Aligned Movement in New Delhi on Tuesday. He also is expected to confer with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, chairman of the 101-nation movement, on the Middle East.

## Bundestag president supports Mideast peace conference

CAIRO (AP) — Philipp Jenninger, president of the West German parliament (Bundestag), met on Monday with senior Egyptian officials and told them his country supports the convening of an international peace conference to solve the Middle East issue. Mr. Jenninger and his accompanying delegation met separately with Rifai Al Mahjoub, chairman of the People's Assembly, and Prime Minister Aly Lutfi.

## Greek ministers resign over riots

ATHENS (R) — Greece's public order minister and his most senior aide submitted their resignations on Monday and three Athens police chiefs were suspended as new street violence erupted on the city streets, official sources said. The disorders were sparked by Sunday night's death from police bullets of a 15-year-old boy (See page 8). Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu was to announce later Monday whether or not he accepted the resignations, the sources said.

## France, U.K. to sign channel treaty

LONDON (R) — Britain and France said on Monday they would sign a treaty next February committing both states to build a permanent road/rail link across the English Channel. President Francois Mitterrand and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said their governments would decide in January which of the four projects would be given the go-ahead and that a formal treaty would be signed the following month.

# Reagan, Gorbachev meet today with diverse views on key issues

GENEVA (Agencies) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev meet today in the first superpower summit in six years and the prime focus of the two leaders' talks is expected to be on the global arms race.

Mr. Gorbachev arrived in Geneva on Monday and immediately challenged President Reagan "to halt the unprecedented arms race." But Mr. Reagan stood by his search for his space-based defence plan, commonly called "Star Wars," but formally known as the strategic defence initiative (SDI). "I think when that's explained to him, he'll find it will help us end the arms race," the U.S. President said at a separate welcoming ceremony hosted by the Swiss government. Mr. Reagan arrived here on Sunday.

Asked by reporters what he thought about Mr. Gorbachev's statement, Mr. Reagan said, "We both must have the same intentions. If he feels as strongly that way as I do, then we'll end the arms race." Just minutes after his Aeroflot jet touched down, the Soviet leader set the tone for the two-day meeting, beginning on Tuesday, by zeroing in on "Star Wars." The Kremlin has demanded that the United States abandon the programme to build a space-based

defence shield, but Mr. Reagan has pledged to pursue research and testing. Mr. Gorbachev, wearing a hat and a topcoat as a strong wind whipped across the airport runway and drove temperatures below freezing, was accompanied by his wife, Raisa. They were welcomed by Swiss President Kurt Furgler, who told the Soviet leader that he and Mr. Reagan are in a position "to help the destiny of humanity and lay the footsteps of peace."

The two leaders' talks are expected to touch on regional conflicts. Mr. Reagan has said U.S.-Soviet agreements on various regional conflicts could pave the way for better relations. The Middle East conflict is expected to be discussed by the two leaders but not in depth. In his arrival statement, Mr. Gorbachev said the top question at the summit was "what can be done to halt the unprecedented arms race in the world and its extension to new spheres."

The world expected results, he said, adding, "I can assure you that on our part we shall seek precisely such an outcome to this important meeting."

While Moscow says arms control is the key issue here, the United States is depicting the summit as a chance to discuss a broad range of topics affecting their relations. In his remarks to reporters before meeting President Furgler, Mr. Reagan stressed the defensive nature of the SDI programme and said Mr. Gorbachev should stop referring to it as "Star Wars."

The two leaders open their two days of talks with a tête-à-tête session Tuesday morning at the Villa Fleur d'Eau and a meeting with aides present in the afternoon. They are due to concentrate on arms control on Tuesday and move on to other issues at the Soviet mission on Wednesday.

U.S. officials said they expected to discuss the spread of chemical weapons, cultural exchanges, consulates and air traffic in the Pacific to be announced, possibly on Thursday morning. Mr. Reagan's spokesman, Larry Speakes, said the president was in an upbeat mood on the eve of the meetings.

"He looks to the summit as an opportunity to start a new process... this can be a watershed meeting if the Soviets share our commitment to a fresh start," Speakes said. Speakes said Mr. Reagan was entering the meeting without any illusions about the size of the differences between the two countries and he said a joint statement on arms was unlikely.

Mr. Gorbachev arrived amid massive security measures by the Swiss authorities. He was accompanied by his wife and most of the team that will accompany him in full-scale sessions with the American leader.

One conspicuous absence was former Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, who had attended all 14 Soviet-U.S. summits since the first one between President Roosevelt and Josef Stalin in 1943. Mr. Gromyko was elevated to the ceremonial position of state president in July when Eduard Shevardnadze was appointed and Mr. Gorbachev moved to take firmer control of foreign policy.

Mr. Reagan assembled his key advisers, including Secretary of State George P. Shultz and National Security Adviser Robert C. McFarlane, to make further preparations Monday for what Speakes said could be "a watershed meeting" with the Soviet leader.

Before Mr. Gorbachev's arrival, the Soviet Union accused the U.S. administration of trying to "torpedo the whole arms limitations process" with a leaked letter from U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger counselling Mr. Reagan not to yield to the Soviet leader if he seeks to

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## Palestinians call on Geneva summit to ensure PLO role in peace efforts

AMMAN (R) — Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories appealed to the United States and the Soviet Union on Monday to ensure the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is involved in any settlement of the Palestinian problem.

The statement, issued on the eve of the Geneva summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, said, "We ask the superpowers at their historic meeting to adopt the cause of our people in the occupied territory who fully support the PLO and to open the way for it to join in efforts being made for a just, political settlement of the Palestinian cause."

The Palestine news agency Wafa, which distributed the statement, said it was signed by 5,000 people representing various professional groups, academics and students in the occupied territories.

The statement said the PLO was the only legal representative of the Palestinians and without its participation there could be no just and stable settlement through an international Middle East peace conference.

It renewed loyalty to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, praised Moscow's policies and denounced the United States and Israel for trying to "liquidate the Palestinian identity."

Palestinian newspapers published in East Jerusalem on Monday praised Soviet support of the PLO.

AI Juds said that Moscow, by linking its participation in an international Middle East peace conference with that of the PLO, showed how far-sighted Soviet policy makers were.

It called the Soviet stand a clear reply to U.S. and Israeli proposals that Moscow renew ties with Israel.

AI Shaab wrote: "The Soviet stand puts things in the proper perspective and on the right path for solving the Palestinian problem."

AI Fajr dismissed statements that a Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement cancelled the Feb. 11 accord between Jordan and the PLO.

"If some think the Arab rapprochement, especially the Jordanian-Syrian one, may be a conspiracy against the PLO-AMMAN agreement, they do not grasp the full dimension of the PLO's strategy... the PLO's strength lies in the success of these Arab meetings and their development into a united Arab front," AI Fajr said.

Peres also claimed that Jordan and Syria have asked the Soviet Union to renew diplomatic relations with Israel.

Jordan and Syria are concerned that until the Soviets renew ties broken in 1967, Israel will not allow the Soviet Union to play a role in the Mideast peace process. Peres was quoted as saying by the Radio.

But it quoted the premier as saying that Israel would accept Soviet participation in the peace process if the Soviets relaxed their restrictions on Jews emigration.

The radio also quoted Peres as stressing that an international peace conference could only accompany direct talks with Jordan and participants would not be able to force any decisions on the two sides.

Israeli students and religious leaders on Monday staged rallies calling on the Soviet Union to allow more Jews to emigrate.

The Middle East was expected to be only a peripheral issue in the two-day Geneva summit. But Israeli officials say they hoped the two superpower leaders can reach an understanding to break the deadlock on how to start Mideast peace talks.

A Soviet spokesman said earlier this week that Moscow would renew ties with Israel only if the Jewish state agreed to the Palestine Liberation Organisation's participation in Middle East peace talks.

The spokesman, Albert Vlasov, stressed that re-establishment of relations with Israel can come only after Israel agrees to an international conference on peace which would include the PLO.

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His Majesty King Hussein and Sultan Jaqoos inspect a military parade featured on the 15th national day celebrations of Oman on Monday (Petra photo)

## King meets Arab, foreign leaders attending Omani festivities

Qaboos urges end to stagnation in Mideast

MUSCAT (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein on Monday held a series of meetings with Arab and foreign leaders attending celebrations here marking Oman's 15th national day, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

The King, in separate meetings, conferred with North Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani, Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammed Mzali, and Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, the agency said. It did not give details.

Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz also called on the King on Monday. Prince Abdullah was accompanied by Omani Minister Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Deputy Head of the Saudi National Guards Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Tuwajerji and other senior Saudi officials. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Jassem and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri.

The King, held talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq shortly after his arrival on Sunday.

The King also conferred with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on Monday. The talks were attended by the Indian energy minister and the secretary-general of the Indian foreign minister.

Later, the King received Jafari Minister of Education Sheikh Mohammad-Ibn Hamad. West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher also called on the King on Monday.

The King, Arab and foreign leaders attended a grand ceremony Monday morning during which Sultan Jaqoos bin Sa'id of Oman made a speech calling for an end to what he described as stagnation efforts to find a settlement to the Palestinian problem and urged Iran and Iraq to end their five-year-old war.

Sultan Jaqoos said Oman backed current Jordanian-Palestinian efforts to revive the Middle East peace process. "It is vital to overcome the present stagnant situation," he said.

To an indirect appeal to U.S. President Ronald Reagan, represented here by former President Gerald Ford, Sultan Jaqoos urged Israel's allies to exert pressure on it to put an end to Israeli intransigence.

His speech, delivered to a two-hour military display in a stadium here, also called on Baghdad and Tehran to respond to mediation efforts aimed at ending the Gulf war, and said the rights of both sides should be guaranteed in any settlement.

Oman sent an envoy to Iraq last week on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which decided at a summit here this month to seek better relations with Iran. The envoy was expected to go to Tehran shortly.

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efforts to revive the Middle East peace process. "It is vital to overcome the present stagnant situation," he said.

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## Maronite Bishop shot dead in east Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — Unidentified gunmen assassinated the deputy Maronite Catholic bishop of western Bekaa Valley and his nephew on Monday near their home in the village of Saghin, police reported.

A police spokesman said the deputy bishop, Father Boulos Georges Sahjani, was riddled with 30 bullets in the ambush as he and his nephew were driving from the village to nearby Eitanit.

Father Sahjani, 52, and his nephew, Alfred Younis, 20, who was driving the car, were taken to hospital in Saghin. Police said both died soon after.

The double slaying raised sectarian tension in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley in east Lebanon. But police reported no further violence.

The killings were the latest in a string of sectarian slayings and shootings in the region. Police said it was not known who carried out the assassinations.

The killings came as militiamen clashed for three hours across Beirut's dividing green line as their leaders remained deadlocked over a Syrian-sponsored peace plan to end Lebanon's decade-old civil war.

The Maronite bishop of the west Bekaa, Andrew Hadad, said the ambush "was premeditated murder with the intention of undermining the solution process now under way and to revive hostilities in the area."

He declared: "This is not likely to chase us out of our land which we remain willing to irrigate with the blood of our martyrs rather

## Gandhi and Zia optimistic over ties

MUSCAT (Agencies) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq on Monday foreshadowed warmer relations between their countries after talks during Oman's National Day celebrations.

Both leaders described their half-hour meeting as "very good." Mr. Gandhi said: "The mood is there for normalisation."

Mr. Zia told reporters Mr. Gandhi invited him to India and added he might go there in mid-December after a summit of the seven-nation South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation in Dhaka.

Indian sources told Reuter the Pakistani leader was expected in Delhi on Dec. 16.

Mr. Zia said the talks were held "in a very good atmosphere" and was confident the dialogue would lead to better relations between the two neighbours.

The two countries have fought three wars since partition in 1947 and relations have been under renewed strain over skirmishes along the border and Indian suspicions that Pakistan is building a nuclear bomb.

"We discussed bilateral problems and areas of cooperation between the two countries," Mr. Zia said. The topics included "points to which we could and could not" agree, he said.

Mr. Gandhi added that an Indian proposal for a treaty of peace and friendship and a Pakistani counter-offer of a "no war pact" remained under discussion.

The two leaders made no reference to allegations that Pakistan is trying to build a nuclear weapon.

## Volcano rescue work resumes against all odds

ARMERO, Colombia (R) — Rescue workers risked a major threat of disease on Monday as they searched desperately for any last survivors from the Colombian volcano disaster among rotting corpses entombed in a sea of mud.

Officials at Armhero, the town obliterated last week by a volcanic mudslide that killed 22,000 people, pleaded that no more bodies be brought to populated areas, to avert epidemics of typhus, yellow fever and malaria.

The search in the stinking sludge continued on Monday after an outcry following an announcement by Health Minister Rafael de Subiria Sunday night that this once picturesque mountain town should be sealed off and fumigated to prevent disease.

The minister said the stench was sickening, adding: "I don't think there is anybody left (alive)."

Survivors protested and priests urged province Bishop Jose Joaquin Flores to postpone a ceremony proclaiming Armhero consecrated ground and turning the

town into a cemetery. After the protests, the government emergency committee announced the search would continue as long as there was hope of life.

A government report said the eruption made 50,000 people homeless and caused damage estimated at more than \$300 million. Some 20,000 hectares of land were made useless.

Scattered reports of looting on Sunday led to increased patrols by police. Looters, shouting warnings of new eruptions to cause panic, stole televisions, radios and other valuables.

A handful of people were saved on Sunday after miraculously surviving three and a half days trapped in the steaming heat (See page 8).

The Nevado del Ruiz volcano was quiet on Sunday, after a false government warning on Saturday of a new landslide sparked a panic which sent tens of thousands scrambling for higher ground.

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# Tension mounts on Gulf warfront as long-range attacks escalate

## Iraq shoots down Iranian F-5 jet

**BAGHDAD (R) —** Military experts in Baghdad said Monday Iraq was bracing for another big Iranian ground offensive as long-range artillery and air attacks in the Gulf war escalated.

They said, tension was high along the whole 1,180-kilometre warfront, but Iraq was particularly concerned Iran was massing troops in the central Misan sector south west of here.

A military spokesman said Iraq shot down an Iranian F-5 fighter over Misan province Monday, one of two jets he said tried to attack civilian targets in the area.

He said Iraqi warplanes attacked Iran's main Kharg Island oil export terminal Monday and hit a "large naval target," normally a reference to an oil tanker, near the Iranian coast.

Western military analysts said Iraq in recent weeks had sent reinforcements of troops and armour to Misan because of intelligence reports of Iranian concentrations in the area.

An Iraqi official said Sunday Defence Minister Adnan Kharrah had banned warfront visits by journalists "because the enemy might launch a surprise attack at any time."

There has been a rapid escalation in long-range air attacks over the past two weeks, including two Iraqi raids on a steel-rolling complex near the western Iranian city of Ahvaz and two Iranian raids on the northern Iraqi town of Sulaymaniyah, where Iraq said six people were wounded last Friday.

On Sunday, for the first time in months, Baghdad said Iran had used long-range artillery to shell the outskirts of Basra, Iraq's second largest city of one million people on the southern edge of the warfront.

Iraq's daily war communiques have mentioned only small-scale ground skirmishes in recent weeks. Iran and Iraq "are using this time to consolidate their own strategic positions" before more heavy fighting ensues, one military analyst said.

Western diplomats estimated Iran had captured some 4,000 square kilometres of land in the past two years, including 800 to 1,000 square kilometres in the far northern sector two months ago. An Iranian "human wave" offensive at the Hawizah Marshes of southern Iraq last March was repelled.

Monday's attack on Kharg was the 40th reported by Baghdad since mid-August when Iraq stepped up its campaign to choke off Iranian oil exports.

"This country feels it is in its own best interests not to completely cripple Iranian oil exports," said the analyst who believed the attacks were "to whittle away at Iranian morale."

"Iraq has the ability to step up the war at any time, but it does not for political reasons," he said. The Iraqi military spokesman said the F-5 was seen falling into Iranian territory opposite Iraqi frontlines near the international border.

The Kharg attack was the 40th Iraqi raid since mid-August. Marine salvage executives in Bahrain and Dubai said they had no independent confirmation for the Iraqi claim of a ship attack. But they said that recent Iraqi

raids on the Kharg terminal had caused extensive damage to the island's facilities.

A spokesman for the London-based Shipping Intelligence Unit, reached by telephone from Bahrain, confirmed the reports and said "most of the small terminals at Kharg are still operational, but it is quite true that the larger terminals are out of action."

The Lloyd's spokesman was referring to the two main jetties at Kharg, known as the "T" terminal and the sea island or "H" terminal.

Smaller terminals at the Kharg complex, according to the shipping executives, are jetties that can take tankers of up to 100,000-ton capacity.

Iraq, in February 1984, said it was imposing a blockade on Kharg Island and other Iranian ports within a 50-mile radius war-zone and started attacking ships calling on such oil terminals to prevent the Tehran government from exporting oil and financing its war facilities.

On Aug. 15, Iraq escalated its blockade to almost daily air attacks on the Kharg terminal itself, which is 200 kilometres south-east of the narrow Iraqi coast on the Gulf and said it was determined to "shatter" the Iranian economy until the Iranian leaders accepted peace.

Iraqi warplanes on Aug. 15 and Sept. 19 took direct hits on the "H" and "T" jetties respectively, and more than halved Iran's crude oil flow to the outside world to about 700,000 barrels per day in the latter part of September.

Repair work, reactivation of smaller terminals in the vicinity of Kharg, and the continued operation of 2-4 berths on the "T" terminal enabled the Iranians to

increase their oil exports.

Recent strikes by Iraqi jet fighters however scored on tank farms at Kharg, and pipelines feeding oil to the "T" jetty, according to oil executives in the region.

Three of 20 tanks at the storage farm on Kharg were known to have been set on fire early this month, and the fire took three days to extinguish, industry sources then reported.

Oil industry executives reportedly estimated Iranian exports of crude oil through the end of last week to have been at their normal average rate of 1.8 million barrels daily. This is 300,000 barrels per day more than the figure for Iranian oil exports before the Kharg attacks started on Aug. 15.

Kharg accounts for 90 per cent of total Iranian oil exports.

The Iranians may complete repair work on a number of berths on the "H" jetty within days, which will enable supertankers to dock at Kharg and lift oil, executives reported. "Together with the alternative smaller terminals that are being reactivated and oil already stored at Sirri, the Iranian oil exports should not suffer much," said a Bahrain-based shipping executive.

Most of the Kharg oil is moved by Iranian-chartered tankers to Sirri Island, 560 kilometres south of Kharg, from where it can be lifted by customers away from the range of Iraqi warplanes.

One of the smaller-size tankers which Iran is using on the shuttle was struck by the Iraqi warplanes on Saturday as it was sailing with a load of Kharg crude oil en route Sirri. The 62,000-ton Maltese Koccar was able to continue under its own power and reached Sirri on Sunday for repairs.

## Sudanese sign charter to defend democracy

**KHARTOUM (AP) —** Political parties, trade unions and a representative of the ruling military council have signed a charter to defend democracy in Sudan.

The charter, signed at a public rally Sunday night, defined a democratic system as one based on multiple parties, the people's sovereignty, respect for the law, independence of the judiciary and human rights. The document called for safeguarding it.

It was signed by 18 major political parties, trade unions and associations, most of them members of the National Alliance Front that spearheaded a general strike leading to a military coup against former President Jaafar Numeiri last April.

A representative of the ruling Transitional Military Council (TMC) signed the document, thus endorsing its call for civil disobedience and the formation of a resistance front in case of an attempt to form a military or civilian dictatorship.

The TMC has promised to hold general elections next April to hand over power to civilians.

The charter stipulates that the armed forces is a national institution to defend territorial integrity and the democratic system but that it should not interfere in politics except through the head of state.

The charter also said any foreign power that recognises or supports dictatorship in Sudan shall be regarded as an enemy of the Sudanese people.

## Velayati in Libya

**BEIRUT (R) —** Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati has arrived in Libya for a visit aimed at aligning positions of the two Islamic revolutionary countries, the official Libyan News Agency JANA said Monday.

Mr. Velayati told JANA the people of Iran stood by the people of Libya against all conspiracies designed to encroach on their freedom, describing the two peoples as "a steadfast fortress in the face of world imperialism."

JANA, received in Beirut, gave no other details of the visit. The Iranian minister arrived Sunday night from Damascus where he had talks with Syrian leader Hafez Al Assad.

Mr. Velayati's Middle East tour coincides with Arab League efforts to reconcile Libya and Syria with Iraq, Iran's enemy in the five-year-old Gulf war, and to heal the breach between Syria and Jordan, which has supported Iraq during the war.

Libya and Syria are the only Arab countries which have backed Iran in the long-running conflict.

## Weizman invited to Egypt for talks

**TEL AVIV (AP) —** Cabinet minister Ezer Weizman has been invited to Egypt for discussions aimed at improving ties between the two countries, Israeli newspapers reported Monday.

The invitation was delivered by Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Mohammed Bassiouny, who returned from Cairo this weekend, said the daily Maariv.

The reports did not indicate when Mr. Weizman's trip might take place, with which Egyptian leaders he would meet, and what subjects would be discussed.

Relations between the two countries have been strained since Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982, and further deteriorated following Israel's Oct. 1 bombing of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) headquarters in Tunisia and the killing of seven Israeli tourists by an Egyptian policeman in the Sinai Desert four days later.

The two countries are also trying to resolve a border dispute over the one-square-kilometre Taba beach resort on the Red Sea. Israel did not return Taba with the rest of the Sinai under the peace treaty, saying the area is "legally part of Israeli territory."

The invitation came as Egypt and Jordan were reported to be trying to pull Syria and the PLO

into a joint Arab peace initiative which would lead to an international peace conference.

Mr. Weizman, a minister without portfolio, close adviser to Prime Minister Shimon Peres and key negotiator in the 1979 Israel-Egypt peace treaty, could not immediately be reached for comment. Both he and his spokesman were out of the office. Mr. Bassiouny was also out of his office.

A Foreign Ministry official who spoke on condition of anonymity said the ministry could not comment on the invitation. He said he did not know whether Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir would object to Mr. Weizman's trip.

Mr. Shamir's Likud Bloc nearly caused a government crisis when Mr. Weizman last visited Egypt in April by blocking official approval for the visit in the government's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. Mr. Shamir felt Mr. Weizman was treading on his territory as foreign minister.

The crisis was only resolved after Mr. Peres, threatening to resign, asked the entire 25-member cabinet to consider the visit. The cabinet gave its approval.

Mr. Weizman recommended after three days of talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak

and former Premier Kamal Hassan AH that Mr. Peres and Mr. Mubarak hold a summit meeting to resolve outstanding issues between the two countries, including Taba and the appointment of a new Egyptian ambassador to Israel.

Following his trip, top civil servants in Mr. Peres' office and the Foreign Ministry visited Egypt to hold further talks with Egyptian leaders, and the Egyptian oil and tourism ministers visited Israel. Mr. Peres said in July that Egypt was relaxing restrictions on trade and tourism between the two countries.

Progress toward a summit meeting was curtailed by the Tunis bombing and the Sinai shooting, and Mr. Peres was reported not to have raised the subject again in an exchange of message with Mr. Mubarak earlier this month.

But Mr. Bassiouny said last week that talks on the Taba dispute would be renewed next month, although no date had yet been set.

Meanwhile, the Energy Ministry said Egyptian Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kandil is to visit Israel this week to renew the annual oil purchase agreement between the two countries.

## People are still dying in isolated northern Ethiopian villages

By Michael Rank

**ADDIS ABABA —** In the isolated villages of northern Ethiopia, miles from roads and help, people are still dying of starvation.

Northern Ethiopia is a land of windswept plateaus cut by deep ravines. There are few roads and it takes a long time for the outside world to hear of hunger in such places — if it ever does.

Canadian helicopter pilot Don Wederfort said he was told in June by farmers living on top of one such plateau that "350 peasants and monks were starving in the tiny village of Ganamba at the bottom of the escarpment."

Wederfort was able to bring the people food and about four tonnes of seeds, landing his helicopter on a small area of level ground near their village. This saved their lives.

Thanks to the seeds and food that he brought, Ganamba is now relatively thriving again and is surrounded by small patches of greenery.

Wederfort said if he had not been told of the village, purely by chance, most of the villagers would now be dead.

In nearby areas of northern Wollo province, seeds are of no use.

Despite good rains in other drought-hit areas this summer, much of Wollo remains bare and grey. This year's harvest is expected to be little better than last year's disastrous crop.

Isolated patches of green seen from the air are deceptive.

"Now the rain has stopped some crops are not as good as they look in the distance. It's not a complete failure but things are dry," said Beth Mathews, the

Canadian medical coordinator at Harbo Famine Camp, south of the major camp at Korem.

According to the U.S.-based religious charity World Vision, one of the largest private agencies working in Ethiopia, 2,000 people are still dying every day of malnutrition and related diseases.

Nobody knows for sure how many have died since the emergency appeal was launched a year ago in the developed world after the broadcasting of news film showing the starving people of Ethiopia.

The outgoing U.N. relief chief in Ethiopia, Assistant Secretary-General Kurt Jansson of Finland, said most estimates put the number at under 500,000. Nobody knows how many hundreds of thousands died in the preceding, drought years.

The government says that millions were saved by the outpouring of aid in the past year.

The benefits of that aid are most evident in the large famine camps, like Korem, where in October last year 100 people a day were dying and the survivors were little more than skin and bones.

Now the children at Korem are boisterous and cheeky, asking visitors for pens and money.

Last week, the camp had only 20,000 inhabitants, compared with 85,000 in January. Most of those who have left have returned to their villages or been resettled in more fertile parts of the west and south west.

But most of the people who have left the camp are still living on relief handouts that they collect once a month, for the rains around Korem have been disappointing yet again.

There were reports that thousands of the 20,000 still living at the camp fled into the countryside in recent days fearing that they might be forcibly resettled, rekindling a controversy over the government's plan to move a million people.

Western aid officials have charged that coercion was used to make peasants move against their will.

Officials of the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) stress that "forced" resettlement is strictly against government policy, although they acknowledge there may have been isolated cases of "local administrators breaking guidelines."

Most Western officials agree with the need for resettlement in principle, and say it is the only way peasants from the worst-hit famine areas can have any hope of rebuilding their lives rather than living indefinitely on handouts.

But they are concerned about some of the tactics used, including the splitting up of families. However, the officials say there have been few known cases of coercion in the last few months, apparently as the result of foreign protests.

Many Western officials also question whether it is necessary to move as many people as the government plans, or to resettle them so far from their homes.

Pat Banks of World Vision said peasants she had spoken to in Ajjaba, a desolate village high on a Wollo plateau, told her: "We would rather die than move hundreds of miles away to lower, more fertile areas completely different in landscape and climate from the land their families had always tilled."

## Church envoy holds talks with U.S. officials

**LONDON (AP) —** Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, was conferring Monday with U.S. officials after meeting in Lebanon with kidnappers holding four Americans hostage.

Mr. Waite, expressing new hope but warning that lives were at risk, returned Sunday night from a five-day mission in Lebanon. He reported immediately to Archbishop Robert Runcie at Lambeth Palace, London residence of the spiritual head of the Anglican Church of England.

Mr. Waite said he would meet later Monday with U.S. officials he did not identify.

Arch. Runcie's press secretary, Eve Keatley, said after the archbishop's late night talks with Mr. Waite that the envoy "would be having a series of meetings in London" on Monday. She gave no details.

In Geneva, White House press spokesman Larry Speakes said Sunday the administration of President Ronald Reagan was hop-

eful Mr. Waite's initiative will resolve the crisis. But Mr. Speakes, in Geneva with Mr. Reagan, stressed Washington will "not negotiate concessions" with the kidnappers.

Mr. Speakes said Monday that the United States was trying to make contact with Mr. Waite "through diplomatic channels in London."

"We look forward to receiving the information that he has obtained on the status of the U.S. hostages being held in Lebanon."

"We are anxious to have direct word on the status of the Americans being held in Lebanon," Mr. Speakes said. "The efforts of the archbishop's envoy are appreciated."

Mr. Waite told reporters at London's Heathrow Airport on Sunday night that he'd made "some progress" during his secret meetings with the kidnappers.

"We have breathing room... I don't know (how much), but we have some space," said 46-year-old Waite.

"The situation is still very difficult and dangerous. I still regard that lives are at risk."

An extremist Shi'ite Muslim group, Islamic Jihad, or Islamic Holy War, says it is holding the Americans and has demanded the release of 17 comrades convicted in Kuwait for bombing the U.S. and French embassies. Kuwait has refused to release the men.

Mr. Waite went to Beirut after Arch. Runcie received a letter, appealing for help 10 days ago from four of six Americans missing in Beirut.

The letter was signed by Terry Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press; the Rev. Lawrence Jenco, a Roman Catholic relief official; David Jacobson, director of the American University Hospital in Beirut; and Thomas Sutherland, dean of agriculture at the American University of Beirut.

Mr. Waite, believed to be the first Western intermediary to see the kidnappers, said he would return to Beirut some time after meeting with the U.S. officials.

"I think the risks are there when I go back again because, yes, there are people who would like to spoil success for a variety of reasons," said Mr. Waite.

But he added, "An important step has been taken in the last few days, a very important step... I have been hopeful that it would be possible to make progress. The fact I've been there and certain things have happened increased my hope. But I know we have a way to go."

Mr. Waite refused to say whether or not he had seen the hostages and also would not talk about their condition, adding "but don't read anything into it."

Mr. Waite's initiative in Lebanon was widely seen as the first real breakthrough in the crisis.

The four Americans have been held for between five and 10 months and Islamic Jihad had said it had killed another of the missing Americans, diplomat William Buckley.

turning over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tues-Sund. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum. Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Friday and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

**SERVICE CLUBS**

Lines Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.

Palatium Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel. 7:30 p.m.

Palatium Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel. 2:00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman. Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261. 815410.

**CHURCHES**

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Amman. Tel. 645590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic). Jabal Lushayeh. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Hussein. 661757.

Church of the Assumption (Greek Orthodox). Abdali. 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer). Jabal Amman. 678906.

Armenian Catholic Church. Ashrafieh. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church. Ashrafieh. 771521.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox). Ashrafieh. 771751.

Armenian Apostolic Church (Inter-denominational). meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiyeh. 677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church. Jabal Amman. 6th Circle. (Rev. N. Smir). Tel. 811295.

Rabbi's Congregation (International). Inter-denominational. meets in the Church of the Redeemer. Jabal Amman. Tel. 663249.

**PRAYER TIMES**

06:04 Fajr  
06:09 (Sunrise) Dhuha  
11:21 Asr  
16:34 Maghrib  
18:00 Isha

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### JUEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia in information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

06:45	Aqaba (RJ)
08:25	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:35	Cairo (MS)
09:35	Kuwait (RJ)
09:45	London (RJ)
09:45	Cairo (RJ)
09:55	Dhahran (RJ)
10:00	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:20	Larnaca, Cyprus (RJ)
10:45	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
10:45	Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
12:45	Kuwait (KU)
15:00	Moscow (SU)
16:40	Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
16:50	Cairo, Larnaca (RJ)
17:15	Baghdad (IA)
17:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:35	Paris, Brussels (RJ)
17:55	Athens (RJ)
18:00	Amsterdam, Istanbul (KLM)
18:05	Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:20	Tripoli (RJ)
19:25	Zurich, Larnaca (RJ)
21:15	Rome, Damascus (AZ)
22:30	Baghdad (IA)
00:25	Baghdad (RJ)

### DEPARTURES

06:30	Aqaba (RJ)
08:30	Beirut (MEA)
09:30	Cairo (MS)
09:30	Tripoli (RJ)
11:15	Athens (RJ)
12:30	Geneva, London (RJ)
12:45	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
13:15	Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
13:30	Rome, Madrid (RJ)
12:45	Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)
13:00	Larnaca (RJ)
15:00	Moscow (SU)
16:00	Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
17:30	Baghdad (IA)
19:20	Kuwait (RJ)
19:30	Dhahran (RJ)
20:15	Baghdad (RJ)
20:15	Jeddah (RJ)
20:45	Cairo (RJ)
21:15	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
22:00	Baghdad (RJ)
23:30	Lisbon, Rio de Janeiro (IA)

### MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Degmar Reeckmann
— Samsa Crown
— Jolly Avenir
— Kal Maru
— Lanka Mahapala
— Ruzhany
— Alrazi

Amir Kavar and Sons Company. Tel. 62234-9 at your service.

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

An increase in temperature is expected with medium and high clouds. Winds will be southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm seas.

Low/high temperature in deg. C

Amman	10/24
Aqaba	12/24
Damascus	17/30
Doera	9/25
Jordan Valley	15/30

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 22.4, Aqaba 29. Humidity readings: Amman 36 per cent, Aqaba 32 per cent.

### MONEY EXCHANGE

Monday rates

Local sell/buy rates in	
Lebanese dinar	991/1001
Dutch guilder	126.5/127.5
French franc	212/220
Irqi dinar	46.7/51
Japanese yen (for 100)	183.1/184.6
Kuwaiti dinar	1284/1291
Chinese lira	20/23
Omani rial	1084/1091
Saudi riyal	102/103
Saudi riyal	102/103
Swedish crown	47.4/48
Swiss franc	173.5/174
Syrian lira	27/28
U.A.E. dirham	102/103
I.K. sterling pound	531.1/532
U.S. dollar	373.4/374
N. German mark	142.4/143



## Fayez returns from APU meeting in Baghdad

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Fayez returned to Amman Monday after attending an extraordinary meeting of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) in Baghdad on Saturday.

He said in a statement on returning to Amman that Arab parliamentarians discussed the consequences of Israel's recent raid on the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Tunis and that the APU issued a statement condemning the Israeli act of aggression.

The APU regards the raid as a flagrant violation of international laws and principles and it demonstrated Israel's aggressive nature to the whole world, the statement said.

According to Mr. Fayez, the final APU communiqué emphasised the need for establishing solidarity among Arab countries and achieving joint Arab action in the political, military and economic fields. He said that the communiqué also called on Arab countries to abide by the Arab League Charter, and to cooperate in repelling challenges and handling foreign threats.

The final communiqué urged all Arab parliaments to work in cooperation with international organisations, and particularly the Inter-Parliamentary Union, to

expose Israel's actions and to win further world support for just Arab causes. It also voiced total support for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their home land and their right to self-determination, Mr. Fayez added.

He said that the communiqué expressed total Arab support for Tunisia in the face of Zionist aggression and complete backing to Egypt in its courageous stand vis-à-vis the U.S. interception of an Egyptian plane following the Achille Lauro incident.

Mr. Fayez paid tribute to his accompanying delegation to the meeting which grouped Dhounan Al Hindawi and Riqq Al Bataineh, both Parliament members, for their part in drafting the meeting's final communiqué.

He said he had delivered a major speech at the two-day meeting referring to the state of division in the Arab World at present and the need for Arab countries to achieve a minimum level of solidarity to help to end Israel's occupation of Arab territory and to put an end to Zionist aggression on the Arab Nation.

Mr. Fayez said he called on parliamentarians to put pressure on their governments to end the present state of disunity and disarray in the Arab World with the purpose of ending Israel's expansionist designs in the Arab area.

## JEA awards computer, data transfer contract to U.S. firm

AMMAN (Petra) — An American firm has won a contract from the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) to supply, install and operate part of its microwave project intended to facilitate the transfer of information about power distribution and other electricity-related matters. Under the contract, the firm will supply and install facilities and equipment which would enable all JEA installations and units around the country to benefit from the central computer system in obtaining required information and data through their own computer terminals.

## Jordan, Romania to hold talks on bilateral relations, cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Romania will hold talks here next Sunday, designed to bolster their bilateral cooperation in economic, commercial and technical fields, according to an official announcement Monday.

The announcement said that the talks will be conducted through a joint economic committee chaired by the ministers of planning of both countries.

## King meets Arab and foreign leaders in Oman

(Continued from page 1)

which countries he thought should play a more active role in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"We call on all international forces friendly to Israel to accept their responsibilities and exert their full influence to put an end to Israeli transgression, so as to provide an opportunity for positive progress towards reaching a solution that will restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and guarantee justice and peace for all," Sultan Jabous said.

Sultan Jabous said he hoped

Tuesday's summit meeting in Geneva between Mr. Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev would "commence an effective détente... which will alleviate present intense international tension and call a halt to the arms race and remove the spectre of nuclear war."

Dignitaries attending Monday's ceremonies included President Mubarak, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, President Zia, West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher, Mr. Ford and Britain's Duke of Kent.

## Maronite bishop shot dead in Bekaa

(Continued from page 1)

than leave it."

Christian leaders, including churchmen, have criticised the Damascus accord, charging it surrenders too many Christian powers to their foes.

Last week, a suicide bomber tried to blow up a monastery in east Beirut where senior Christian politicians who have opposed the draft accord were meeting.

Four people, including the bomber, were killed and 26 wounded, among them former President Camille Chamoun.

Police said the green-line fighting was carried after a security committee, representing the main three militias and the Lebanese army, called a ceasefire.

But sporadic sniping and shelling continued through the day. Police had no report of casualties.

In another development, one of the four Frenchmen held hostage by the shadowy Islamic Jihad group in Lebanon is in "terrible physical condition that might endanger his life," a statement purportedly from the kidnappers said on Monday.

The statement, delivered to a Western news agency in Beirut,

did not identify the hostage or specify what his ailment is.

But the statement said the man's condition has apparently deteriorated "despite our full and great concern about the safety and wellbeing of all the hostages."

The report that one of the Frenchmen was seriously ill came after negotiations to secure the release of at least two of the captives, journalist Jean-Paul Kaufmann and scientific researcher Michel Seurat, have apparently stalled.

The statement was issued the day after Terry Waite, the archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, disclosed that he had a face-to-face meeting with the kidnappers of four of six Americans missing in Lebanon at the weekend (Waite meets U.S. officials, page 2).

Monday's statement was the first word of any negotiations between the French government and Islamic Jihad.

The statement said: "We warn the French government against the consequences of stalling in the current negotiations and hold it fully responsible for what may happen to the hostages as a result of the delay."

## Israelis demolish Arab home

(Continued from page 1)

nched an attack with hand grenades and automatic guns on an Israeli military vehicle near the West Bank town of Toukarm, on Monday.

WAPA said that Israeli Radio admitted the attack and but denied any losses in life and material.

The radio also said that another military vehicle was stoned by Arabs near Herod's Gate in occupied Jerusalem and the area was sealed off by Israeli troops who launched a search campaign and detained five Arabs for questioning.

Earlier, an incendiary bomb

was buried on another military vehicle near Tal Matar settlement in the Gaza area. They attacked and injured several occupants of the vehicle, WAPA said. Israeli troops sealed off the area and launched a search campaign for the attackers, the agency said.

Other reports said Israeli troops were maintaining a cordon around the Islamic University in Gaza. The cordon was imposed following reports that students involved in student council elections raised portraits of Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat and shouted anti-Israeli slogans.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Monday watches spectacular festivities observed to mark His Majesty King Hussein's golden jubilee in Irbid (Petra photo).

## USAID administrator ends visit to Jordan

By Sa'ad G. Hattar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator Peter McPherson left Amman Monday following a two-day visit to Jordan during which he held talks with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and senior officials.

Topics of his discussions focused on the U.S.-Jordan technical and economic cooperative programme, means to bolster existing ties between Jordan and the U.S., and ways to promote bilateral cooperation in the field of administrative and engineering consultancy. Mr. McPherson also discussed USAID contributions to projects included in the forthcoming five-year development plan (1986-1990).

Prior to his departure on Monday, Mr. McPherson held a press conference in which he outlined the scope of cooperation between the United States and Jordan during the past 33 years.

Speaking to reporters, Mr. McPherson said that a total of \$1.5 billion has been earmarked by the U.S. for development pro-



grammes in Jordan including water and irrigation schemes, educational, health and agricultural projects.

In 1985, the U.S. provided Jordan with \$250 million as a supplementary economic grant for a period of three years. The funds are to be allocated in a way which will help attain long-term economic and social benefits for the Kingdom, according to Mr. McPherson.

The additional assistance will provide \$160 million for a commodity import programme (CIP). The balance of \$90 million will be

made available to Jordan in the form of project assistance, he explained. To date, the USAID office in Jordan has worked closely with concerned governmental departments on various joint projects. Mr. McPherson said. He added that agreements for \$80 million in supplementary funds have already been signed and that another \$80 million accord is yet to be signed in 1986 with the remaining \$90 million to be allocated in the following year.

Under the CIP, both public and private sectors are entitled to purchase equipment, including industrial machinery, irrigation equipment, farm apparatus and medical instruments from the U.S.

USAID has completed the designs for a project to construct about 40 compulsory-level schools over the next three years. Mr. McPherson continued. Projects in the fields of potable water, irrigation, transportation and other developmental sectors are due to be implemented during the next two years, Mr. McPherson said.

He noted that the supplementary assistance for 1985 is in addition to the on-going U.S. aid programme of \$20 million per annum in economic assistance.

## Regent attends public rally, celebrations in Irbid to mark King's 50th birthday

IRBID (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday attended public celebrations held in Irbid to mark His Majesty King Hussein's 50th birthday.

importance of people's participation in development.

The Regent also lauded the role of Yarmouk University in developing the local community.

The celebrations started off with the national anthem followed by a huge procession in which an estimated 100,000 people took part. School children, scouts and girl guides were among those taking part in the nearly 10-kilometre procession and marchers passed through streets bedecked with flowers, flags and the King's portraits.

Posters carried by the marchers bore words of support and slogans demonstrating backing for the King's policies and allegiance to the Hashemite throne. The Royal Jordanian Falcons presented an acrobatic display over the city while several paratroopers performed a freefall jumps, landing close to the governor's house. At several squares in the city national dances were held.

In the main square, Irbid Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin delivered a speech to the rally pledging the people's allegiance and support to the King and he congratulated King Hussein on his birthday. In his address, the governor paid tribute to King Hussein's wise leadership and his relentless efforts to serve his nation.

Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran also delivered a speech on the occasion in which he said that over the past three decades King Hussein has been able to transform Jordan into a modern state with strong foundations of stability, security and continuing progress.

Another speaker on the occasion was Irbid Mayor Abdul Razzak Tubeikat who outlined the various achievements accomplished in Jordan in general and in Irbid in particular under King Hussein's rule.

Prince Hassan, who arrived in Irbid in the morning, was accompanied by Interior Minister Hassan Al Kayed. He was met by the governor of Irbid, the mayor and senior dignitaries. The Regent made a brief inspection visit to the governor's house and conveyed King Hussein's greetings to the representatives of Irbid Governorate. Prince Hassan also expressed deep appreciation for the celebrations and thanked the organisers for their efforts.

Prince Hassan told the audience that he will hold a meeting soon with officials from Irbid Governorate to discuss the region's development scheme. He stressed the need to transform the local community from a society of services to one of production over the coming five years. He said that Irbid region is one of the most important regions in the Kingdom and added that more attention should be paid to the effective exploitation of available land to increasing production.

Visit to municipality

After the visit to the governor's office, Prince Hassan called at Irbid Municipality where he was greeted by mayor Abdul Razzak Tubeikat on the municipality's five year plan. Prince Hassan urged the municipal council to work out medium and long-term

plans for improving public services.

Dr. Tubeikat told Prince Hassan that during the coming five year plan, Irbid Municipality will build 20 public gardens on a total area of 200 dunums and will also open roads, a public library, a new municipality building and a new market-place in addition to a sports city based on the designs of Al Hussein Youth City in Amman. Dr. Tubeikat also discussed some requests submitted by the municipality and presented Prince Hassan with the municipality's shield and insignia.

Afterwards, Prince Hassan visited a local girls school where he opened an exhibition of paintings, embroideries and educational aids. The ceremonies were attended by Minister of Interior Hassan Al Kayed, Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher Kanaani, Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh and other senior officials.

During his visit to Irbid, the Crown Prince inaugurated an exhibition organised by Yarmouk University in cooperation with a number of scientific and educational institutions. On display at the exhibition are photographs and paintings depicting social life in Jordan in addition to some traditional costumes.

The Crown Prince also inaugurated an archaeological institute at Yarmouk University.

Later in the day, Crown Prince Hassan opened a medical centre on the university's campus and was briefed by the dean of faculty of medicine, Dr. Sa'ad Hijazi, on the centre's achievements and future outlook.

Speaking to reporters at the end of his visit to Irbid, the Regent expressed happiness over spontaneous expressions by the citizens in celebrating the King's birthday. He praised their feelings and noted that events such as this strengthen national belonging among all Jordanians.

The Crown Prince spoke about the progress that has been made by the governorate of Irbid over the past five decades, stressing the

Activities in Shobak

In Shobak and its neighbouring villages, similar celebrations were held Monday. Governor Eid Al 'atameh and other senior officials from the district attended public rallies, processions and national dances as well as sporting events held on the occasion.

Marchers, including schoolchildren, scouts and army bands, carried portraits of the King and posters expressing congratulations and support for the monarch. The governor later inaugurated a building at Shobak agricultural college and a compound which includes laboratories, dormitories, a gymnasium in addition to a number of workshops, a poultry enclosure and areas where 350 trainees will be able to practise farming techniques.

Later, Mr. 'atameh opened an exhibition of educational aids and agricultural implements and inaugurated a secondary school for girls.

## Events in Tafleeh

In Tafleeh, celebrations were held to mark the King's birthday and were attended by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs, and the Environment Marwan Al Himoud and local senior officials. Tafleeh Mayor Yabba Khawaldeh addressed a public rally on the occasion and later a procession passed through the city streets with marchers carrying flags and portraits of the King. Minister of Public Works Mahmoud Al-Hawamdeh and district officials took part in the procession. Mr. Hawamdeh later inaugurated a housing estate and a school for girls.

A similar celebration was organised to mark the occasion at Marj Al Haman west of Amman. Taking part in the processions were sports, representatives of public and private organisations and charitable and voluntary societies. The public rally was addressed by Mayor Mohammad Abdul Naji and other local officials.

## Princess Basma to open two social service centres

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma will next Sunday open two centres for social services in Mafrqa city and Al Za'atari on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's 50th birthday. The Mafrqa social services centre was built and equipped by the Ju'een Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (JAJSWF) while the Za'atari social services centre was built by a "donation from a Jordanian citizen."

The 450 square metre Mafrqa centre comprises a multi-purpose hall, administration units, a kindergarten for 70 children, two vocational training workshops and a health education unit. The 210 square metre Za'atari centre includes a multi-purpose hall, a kindergarten, two vocational training workshops and a health education unit. The two centres will operate in accordance with the JAJSWF plan for rural centres, which aims at drawing up and implementing programmes for child care such as kindergartens and children's clubs.

The centres also aim to draw up special programmes for women, health guidance and mother and child care. One of the goals of these centres will be to help eradicate illiteracy among women in cooperation with the Ministry of Education.

## Tourism Ministry plans to introduce horse-drawn carriages in Petra

By Sa'ad G. Hattar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In its drive to preserve the ancient charm of the rose red city of Petra, the Ministry of Tourism is planning to introduce traditionally built horse-drawn wagons to transport tourists through the city and its spectacular monuments.

To this end, the ministry has invited a renowned British carriage builder to visit Amman and to design a multi-purpose carriage for people who are not able to walk or ride the two-kilometre path down to the antiquities.

Having worked on several possible designs for the last two weeks, Mr. M.A. Horler has arrived at the most suitable design of carriage for use in Petra which will be ready in six months. Two carriages will be initially built for a test period in Petra by March 1986.

## Maintaining Petra's character

The project, which is the brainchild of Ministry of Tourism Director General Nassir Attallah, is intended to reduce dust clouds created by motor vehicles which affect the colour of the stone. It is also an effort to maintain the charm and atmosphere of the ancient city.



Traditional wood and cast iron horse-drawn carriages, similar to those used in Britain, are to be used for transporting tourists to the ancient city of Petra.

According to Mr. Attallah, invalids or elderly people who are not able to ride horses will be able to use the carriages. The ministry is not planning to reduce the role of horses in taking people down to Petra as a number of local residents depend on the horse rides for a living. Mr. Attallah told the Jordan Times on Monday. The main reasons for the carriages, he continued, are to maintain the traditional character of the city and to make visits to Petra enjoyable and memorable for all visitors.

Speaking about the carriages, Mr. Horler said that they are designed to accommodate four passengers, including the driver. Drawn by two horses, which will be specially trained to pull the carriages, the two ordered carriages will be built mainly of wood and cast iron in order to withstand the rough roads in Petra and will be able to carry a load of approximately 400 kilograms.

The carriages are some four feet in track which will allow about 1000mm for the two carriages to pass each other in the tightest wide sq. The measurement also leaves space for walkers and horse riders to pass on their way to and from the city. Special springs and shock absorbers will also be fitted to the carriages for passenger comfort. The cost of each carriage is expected to be in the range of \$4,000 to \$4,500.



## A rare opportunity for peace in the Middle East

By Nader Samarnah

Nader Samarnah is a Jordanian-born American, who lives in Yonkers, New York. He is a community activist and a leader of the American Arab Council. He participated in the Jordanian expatriate conference held in Amman last summer. The following article by Mr. Samarnah first appeared in the *Gannett Westchester Newspaper* on Oct. 7.

WESTCHESTER County has a sizeable population of people who immigrated to the United States from what is called the Arab World, a term used to describe the Arab nation and the area in which Arabs live.

Arab immigration to the United States occurred in three major waves: The first in the period following the American Civil War, the second during the first and second decades of this century, and the third and most recent starting in the '50s and continuing. The ultimate goal for these immigrants was to be assimilated in the American melting pot and join mainstream America.

During the last two decades, however, attitudes changed and people began to take pride in their ethnic roots, along with their Americanism, to the extent that today we see multiple ethnic her-

itage celebrations. Arab-Americans are no exception. An advantage of this ethnic revival in America has been the ability to communicate American values and ideals through these ethnic groups to the nations of the world.

We have seen how Polish-Americans took the lead in demonstrating support of the Solidarity labour movement in their homeland, and how black Americans are spearheading the movement to abolish apartheid in South Africa. Arab-Americans are working to promote equally noble causes, such as promoting peace in the Middle East and to further the friendship and understanding between Americans and the Arab Nation.

A group of Arab-Americans from Westchester County has travelled to the Middle East and helped in that regard. The delega-

tion from Westchester made the trip to Jordan, to take part in a special conference sponsored by the Jordanian government to which Jordanians from all over the globe were invited.

One topic of great importance to members of the Arab American Council at the conference was Middle East peace and a resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

We were extremely interested in finding out as much as possible about obstacles standing in the way of a peaceful settlement to the conflict, in order to contribute constructive thoughts and carry back to the United States a clear picture of the situation to help fellow Americans develop a better understanding of that geographically strategic region of the world.

The region, with its location and vast oil reserves, is important to the United States. What happens there has a direct impact on our lives, our economy and our national security. It is absolutely in the best interest of America to achieve a peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

As a group, we wanted to make sure that whatever information we brought back was accurate, reliable and free of inaccuracies and propaganda.

We base our findings on our observations, our communications with the public, an audience with King Hussein, a private meeting with Jordan Foreign Minister Taher Masri and Panel Boeker, American ambassador to Jordan, as well as on the deliberations of the conference.

We find that the Jordanian people and government are friendly to America, that they are committed to a peaceful solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict, with all its aspects, and that they sincerely want to reach a just and durable peaceful settlement.

We were informed that Jordan accepted United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338 as well as President Reagan's Peace Initiative of September 1982, all of which are peace plans based on the following principles:

— Ending the state of war between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

— Recognising the right of each state in the region to exist within secure and recognised borders.

— Returning the Arab lands occupied by Israel during the 1967 war to Arab sovereignty.

— Affirming the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

— Normalising relations and trade between Israel and the Arabs.

To demonstrate their commitment, the Jordanians cite their acceptance of the above-mentioned resolutions and President Reagan's Peace Plan, which calls for the formation of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to negotiate the details of a settlement to the conflict based on those principles.

As evidence of how serious it is about it, the Jordanian government lists the reestablishment of its relations with Egypt, a country that made peace with Israel; the signing of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord with moderate Palestinians; and the subsequent formation of a delegation to explore and lay the grounds for peace. The Jordanians feel that the ball

is in United States' court. It must take the important leadership role, which is essential to encourage both sides to make tough decisions during peace negotiations. The feeling is that the remaining U.S. objections are over technicalities, not substance, and that the United States must exercise courage to overcome such minor obstacles and conduct exploratory talks as a first step toward direct negotiations with international approval and support.

Tragedies in the Middle East that afflict Israelis, Arabs and Americans in Lebanon are the result of a sequence of missed opportunities for peace.

Another rare opportunity for peace exists now.

Both Israel, under the leadership of its Labour Party government, and the Arabs are sincere in their desire to achieve peace. What is needed is determined leadership to end the cycle of horror and stop terrorism and violence.

The United States must play that role.

## Summit expectations

ALTHOUGH most political observers do not expect today's Reagan-Gorbachev summit to produce any dramatic results, some of them are speculating that the only real progress that can be made at the Geneva meeting is in fact on the Middle East. Strange and far-fetched as this speculation may seem, considering the overriding importance of the other questions on the two leaders' agenda, these observers point out to Middle East-related areas which could represent points of agreement between the two superpowers.

One such area lies in the field of cooperation in the U.N. Security Council in passing a resolution which would invite the various parties to an international peace conference on the Palestinian problem. Another is the possibility that both Washington and Moscow would put pressure on their respective friends in the region to attend such conference and make every effort to ensure its success.

Such progress is unlikely, however, if the U.S. and the Soviet Union do not first solve or at least narrow their differences on a number of crucial issues involved.

Among these issues are U.S. recognition of the PLO, the restoration of Soviet-Israeli ties, easing of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union; and they all are thorny problems that the two superpowers may not be able to tackle in one session or even more.

This is perhaps the reason why the U.S. secretary of state, Mr. George Shultz, has chosen to caution against optimism as far as the Middle East is concerned. But taking into account that U.S. officials have been trying to lower expectations on the summit across the board, it is still possible that some progress will be actually made.

In whatever case, the importance of the summit to us cannot be underestimated and all hope must not be lost that something positive will emerge out of Geneva in the next two days.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: Hopes of Geneva

THE TWO superpowers open a summit meeting in Geneva Tuesday to discuss a number of world issues; and according to observers it is one of the most significant meetings over the past 40 years. But since the start of the preparations for this summit, Israel and the United States have been launching black and white campaigns on the Soviet Union designed not only to damage Moscow's image but also to cover for their own ill-behaviour and their responsibility for creating world tension. Both Israel and the United States have caused world issues to be so complicated and the world to be an unstable place for all nations. They have been practising hostile actions against nations in Central America, in South America and in the Middle East. The Arabs, who are concerned over world peace, hope that this summit will achieve success because such success would mean an end to many world conflicts. We hope that the two superpowers will come to understanding and help solve world problems like the Middle East. But it has to be said that the United States has to back from some of its policies if peace is to be established. It ought to scrap its star war programme that is intended to overburden the Soviet Union and the NATO allies with additional expenditure and the whole world with the danger of new weapons. Also the United States should seek justice in order to find a solution in the Middle East.

#### Al Dustour: Soviet Jews

ON THE eve of the superpower summit meeting in Geneva, Israel has escalated its campaign against the Soviet Union demanding that the door be opened for the Soviet Jews to emigrate to Israel. Israel has also been demanding that the Soviet Jews' question be placed on the Geneva agenda. The Israelis are clearly pressing Washington to give all the attention to their demand and forget all about the other important questions while at the same time they are exercising a sort of blackmail on the Soviet Union with the hope of achieving their own selfish desire. But Israel would not have behaved in this manner had it not found encouragement from the United States which has now been dragged behind Israel in making similar demands to Moscow. The Soviet Union for its part realises that allowing the Jews to emigrate to Israel means further complicating the situation in the Middle East and a worsening of relations with the Arab countries. The more Jews coming to Israel the better Israel's position will be in its war with the Arabs and in perpetuating its occupation of Arab lands. We call on the Soviet Union to adhere to its policies which favour justice and which aims at maintaining strong relations with the Arab World.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Israel's fears of Arab solidarity

ISRAEL DOES not conceal its fears of a Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement and an end to Arab differences, and it is natural for Israel to continue efforts for maintaining these differences and placing obstacles in the path of Arab solidarity. It is in Israel's interest to see the Arabs at loggerheads because this will be a fertile climate for its forces to launch aggression and impose de facto solutions on the Arabs in the occupied Arab territories. Israel wants to see weak Arab countries because it is easier for it to face each country individually and Israel realises that the moment the Arabs are united danger on its own future will become a reality. Arab solidarity is the only means of creating a strong front in the political and military levels, and this solidarity among Arab states is capable of repelling Israeli aggression anywhere. For some time, Israel succeeded in casting doubt on the policies and stances of some Arab states, but the recent declaration by Jordan and Syria that they both are committed to joint Arab action ended Israel's dreams.

## Reagan is an anti-Communist who turned away from confrontation

By David Nagy  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Ronald Reagan vaulted from the film lots of Hollywood to the pinnacles of power and has since become at 74 one of the most conservative, popular and resilient presidents in American history.

He frequently tempers his conservative philosophy with pragmatism, especially in foreign affairs.

An ardent anti-Communist who once called the Soviet Union an evil empire, he suddenly turned away from policies of confrontation 10 months before his reelection in 1984 to a second term and urged the Kremlin to join him in working for peaceful relations.

The climax of his policy change comes when he meets Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Geneva on Tuesday and Wednesday, the first superpower summit since 1979.

The approach to Geneva was marked by a public relations battle in which Gorbachev attempted to kill Reagan's strategic defence initiative (SDI), the multi-billion dollar "Star Wars" research project to build a defence against attacking missiles.

Reagan countered by arguing that an SDI system would destroy weapons not people. He has also tried to broaden the agenda of the summit, stressing such issues as Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and alleged Soviet human rights abuses.

U.S. allies put nuclear arms control negotiations at the top of their concerns and were disappointed when Reagan stressed his broader agenda in a speech to the United Nations General Assembly a month before the talks.

A former Hollywood star and California governor, Reagan defied sophisticated political wisdom by thrashing incumbent Jimmy

Carter and winning the White House with ease in 1980.

Already the oldest man ever sworn into office as U.S. president at 69, he went on to survive an assassin's bullet, lead a dramatic rightward shift in U.S. policy and win reelection by an even bigger landslide in 1984.

Six months into his second term, Reagan had surgery for bowel cancer in July 1985, was tentatively pronounced cured and was back as host at a state dinner for China's President Li Xiangnian in only 10 days.

Reagan's presidency has been devoted to four main goals: Rekindling U.S. self-respect and confidence after setbacks such as the 1979-81 crisis in which Iran held 53 Americans hostage; Rebuilding a supposedly inferior U.S. military to equal or surpass that of the Soviets; Stripping "big government" back to the bare essentials at home; And stirring economic growth by cutting both taxes and domestic spending.

His performance has been marked by crises in foreign policy and successes in his dealings with Congress on domestic issues, although he has found the going much rougher on Capitol Hill during his second term than in the first.

During his tenure, Moscow broke off arms control talks in anger at Reagan's hawkish anti-Soviet positions. The talks were reinstated early in 1985 in what some Reagan critics saw as an election-year gesture.

In two crises sparked by Lebanese militants, 239 U.S. servicemen were killed by a bomb in Beirut in 1983, and 39 Americans were held for 17 days by Shiite airline hijackers in 1985.

These challenges to American power went largely unanswered until Reagan last month ordered the interception by U.S. planes of an Egyptian airliner carrying the alleged hijackers of an Italian cruise ship.

In October 1983 a U.S.-led invasion of the Caribbean island of Grenada, widely supported at home, toppled a Marxist government.

Reagan has won the nickname of "the great communicator", being a mast of television and skilled radio performer.

He was born in Tampico, Illinois, the second son of a hard-drinking itinerant salesman.

But it was a closely-knit family and Reagan said he learned from it a reverence for traditional values.

He also inherited from his father liberal political views and was a Democrat until 1962.

After working his way through college, he became a radio sports announcer, then started his career in films, making mostly comedies and romances.

During his film career, he met his first wife, actress Jane Wyman, and after their divorce married another actress, Nancy Davis, who became one of his most influential advisers.

Reagan's conversion to conservatism saw him evolving the blend of patriotic idealism, free market theories and anti-"big government" views that became his stock in trade.

He became governor of California in 1967 but lost in two bids for the Republican presidential nomination before 1980.

Critics often try to cast doubt on his ability or willingness to absorb details of complex problems.

Some members of Congress complain that when they go to see him about pressing business he prefers to regale them with jokes, stories and reminiscences of his Hollywood days.

He has also committed a series of verbal gaffes. But his unconventional style mirrors his life, and for the most part the people like what the critics do not.

## Gorbachev poses formidable challenge for Reagan

By Charles Bremner  
Reuter

MOSCOW — Mikhail Gorbachev comes to his first superpower summit after eight months in office which have seen him stamp his personality on the nation and emerge as the most powerful Kremlin leader for decades.

Articulate and determined, he has imposed his mastery over policy, renewed much of the top Kremlin echelon and convinced many Soviets that his stewardship may end a long period of stagnation for the 68-year-old Communist state.

Only seven years since he was brought to Moscow from a provincial Communist Party job, Gorbachev, 54, has had his men appointed to the key jobs of prime minister, foreign minister and secretary for the economy and ideology.

His prime goal, he says, is to revitalise the economy and transform the mentality of those who run it. His formula for reform contains no departure from orthodox Communist thinking.

But he has also taken firm control of foreign policy, proving himself a forceful spokesman for his country, and projecting an image of younger, more open Soviet leadership.

Some analysts see the balding, solidly-built south Russian as the first Soviet leader fully confident of his country's standing as a superpower equal to the United States.

On a trip to France in October he deftly banded the first press conference by a Soviet leader since the early 1960s.

Gesticulating, cajoling, and at times thumping the table, he came across as a polished but still very Soviet leader.

"Don't let anyone try telling us what to do," he shouted while hammering the table.

Gorbachev's combative, debating style, honed by his law training at Moscow University, suggests President Reagan faces a formidable challenge at the Geneva summit.

After meeting him this month, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said: "He's accustomed to interrupting and expressing a view."

U.S. Senator Sam Nunn said after a meeting in September: "He won't only be comfortable at the summit. Such a skillful lawyer would be comfortable at a U.S. trial lawyer's meeting."

Shultz also noted that Gorbachev, despite his style, still saw the United States from an orthodox Soviet point of view.

"They think everything that happens is the result of a conspiracy involving the interaction of the military and big business," he said.

Though Gorbachev has been waging a "charm offensive" towards the West with proposals on arms and other issues, diplomats see him as a tough guardian of traditional Soviet interests.

He displayed this when Britain ordered 25 Soviets accused of spying in September. After 31 tit-for-tat expulsions on each side, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher called a halt.

At home, Gorbachev is also projecting toughness, sometimes

revealing the "iron teeth" that former Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko attributed to him in remarks last March.

But in September, he told U.S. interviewers he did not believe the people feared him. The remark appeared in Pravda.

Soviets who talk to journalists say this is true. They say he has won respect for the drive for discipline that has brought down many corrupt or incapable officials.

Gorbachev has spread his message by breaking the tradition of distant leadership, taking his drive for reform to the provinces where he has mixed with crowds on the street.

Often appearing with his wife Raisa at his side, he has berated local officials, spoken of past mistakes and urged a new sense of purpose.

For ordinary Soviets, his most symbolic act has been a campaign against alcoholism, aimed at getting to grips with one of the longest-standing scourges of Soviet society.

The Kremlin has backed up the laws by making receptions vodka-free and rooting out officials fond of the bottle.

Gorbachev's reformist drive is seen as reflecting the aspirations of a section of the party elite that grew impatient under the leadership of Leonid Brezhnev.

The late Yuri Andropov apparently recognised Gorbachev as among the best of this younger elite when he supported his 1978 move from the southern Russian city of Stavropol, where he was local party chief, to Moscow.

## British church envoy's skills envied by professional diplomats

LONDON (R) — Terry Waite, the Church of England envoy now trying to gain freedom for four Americans kidnapped in Lebanon, has used a blend of discretion, candour and humour to tackle missions against all odds.

Waite, 46, impressed professional diplomats with his skills when he secured the release of four Britons held in Libya last February and three Anglican missionaries held in Iran in 1981.

The bearded, six-foot eight-inch (2.06 metre) layman also took part in talks which led to the release in September of Reverend Benjamin Weir, an American missionary who was held hostage in Lebanon for more than a year.

After the 1981 Iranian negotiating success, a senior British diplomat commented: "If that man had not gone into church work, we could have used his talents."

Then as now, Waite was sent by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Robert Runcie, to work for the release of the detained men.

In Iran, where three British missionaries were held on suspicion of spying in the wake of the Islamic revolution, Waite intervened on behalf of the spiritual head of the church.

Waite became involved in the case of four Britons held in Libya when the family of one of the hostages wrote to the archbishop say-

ing he was a committed Anglican. The men were held after the killing of a British policewoman outside the Libyan embassy in London. Two faced serious charges and two were out of sight of any charges.

Waite succeeded in obtaining their release despite a diplomatic break between the two countries. The globe-trotting envoy became involved in the Weir case after a request from the Presbyterian church.

After Weir's release, Waite made a public appeal in New York for a meeting with the gunmen holding the four Americans and other Western hostages in Beirut.

Runcie received a letter at the weekend apparently signed by the four Americans, and Waite, who had been in touch with the kidnappers through an intermediary, decided to visit Beirut.

"Travel, especially in remote parts of the world", is listed among recreations in the "Who's Who" entry for Waite.

It was this interest which took him to Uganda, where he was working as an adviser to the country's archbishop when Idi Amin seized power in 1971.

At the same time, he set up a relief programme in southern Sudan during a civil war.

He remained in Africa for most of the 1970s as a consultant to the

Roman Catholic Church. In 1980, Runcie, spiritual head of the world's 60 million Anglicans, made him the first layman to work as an Archbishop of Canterbury's personal assistant.

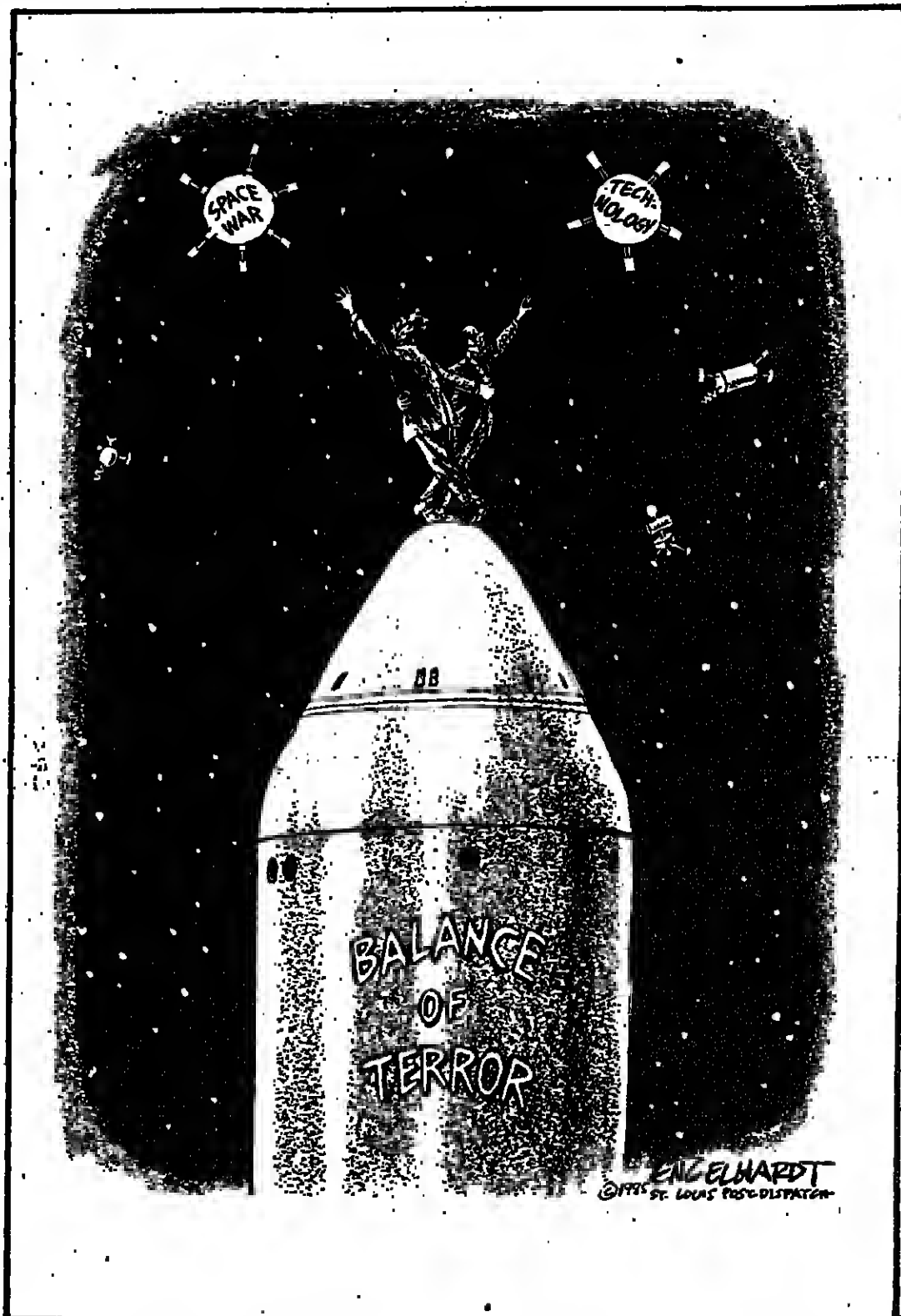
His acute mind and vast knowledge of other religions is seen in Britain as a major factor in his negotiating successes.

Waite said he established a relationship with Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi by giving him a book on Aristotle and the Arabs and discussing Islamic-Christian relations in Africa with him.

The son of a policeman, Waite dreamed of foreign travel while a boy in Cheshire, northwestern England. He studied theology at the Church Army College in London and worked for the Anglican church in Britain before going to Africa in 1968.

His wife and mother of their four teenage children, says: "He has enormous courage and a tremendous ability to get through to people of all kinds." Colleagues say it is his disarming sense of humour which helps him cut across race and language.

"Get Terry Waite into a room full of people, whether it is in Africa, Asia, or the Caribbean, and I guarantee he will have them all chuckling and relaxing within five minutes," commented a fellow church worker who has seen the envoy at work.





# World leaders pay tribute to King Hussein

On the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's 50th birthday, 17 world leaders sent video-taped congratulatory messages to the King. The messages were broadcast by Jordan Television in a programme entitled *Jubilee Messages*. Following are the texts of those messages:

## King Hassan II of Morocco

My dear brother and friend,  
Today I learnt that you are celebrating your 50th birthday and it is a valuable opportunity for me to express my deep wishes and feelings that link us. These feelings are not only sentiments but deep admiration for your struggle that was always marked by reason. I have always appreciated your wisdom and cherished respect for Your Majesty and came to admire you because of your kind personality and commitment to your people and your Arab nation. I appreciate your sacrifice for your nation and your love that encompasses the whole world. The past 50 years of your life were mostly dedicated to the service of your country. You have been involved in finding solutions for your country's problems and the wars that involved your country in the turmoil of the Middle East. Despite all that, you never flinched or moved one step from your principles and never gone back on your policies. You did not change your course of policy despite the



hard work for the sake of your country. You remain cheerful and optimistic all the time and loyal to your nation. I congratulate King Hussein and the Jordanian people on behalf of the Moroccan people and on behalf of myself. I will continue to appreciate the close cooperation and the friendly ties between us and our peoples. May God help you to succeed and fulfil the aspiration of your nation.

## President Mubarak of Egypt

My people and I are pleased to share with the Jordanian people celebrations for the 50th birthday of His Majesty King Hussein Ibn Talal. He is one of the bright symbols in the Arab movement in this critical stage, and a prominent figure in the history of our national struggle to uphold our right and support our principles. I have had the chance to come to know the King's good qualities, great character and endeavours in upholding right; to know his far-sightedness, his keenness on his nation's interest and his initiative to be at the helm of ranks shouldering responsibility and struggle in the most difficult circumstances. His keenness on deepening the concept of solidarity among the various peoples of our nation and bringing about reconciliation and harmony to replace disagreement and differences, and his leading role in joint action among Arab countries as they wage their struggle seeking peace, development and progress. We are all proud of the



concrete achievements, accomplished by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan under King Hussein's rule and the profound changes that affected all aspects of Jordanian life for the benefit of all Jordanian citizens. Best wishes for my brother the King on this occasion. I wish him health, happiness and may God realise for Jordan progress and success.

## President Saddam of Iraq

The Jordanian people today celebrate King Hussein's birthday and we in Iraq, people and leadership, remember this occasion with a feeling of delight and joy as King Hussein has gone through these years with progress, prosperity and stability for the Jordanian people. We are proud and pleased also to see relations growing stronger between the peoples of Jordan and Iraq and reach this high level.  
I wish our brother King Hussein a long life in the service of his people and nation on the road to progress and stability.



## President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan

My greetings and best wishes to His Majesty King Hussein of Jordan on his birthday. I thank God for granting him health and stability for his country. I also congratulate the Jordanian people for enjoying stability and progress under the wise leadership of King Hussein and I wish the King and his people further progress and happiness.



## The Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi

It delights me in this occasion to convey the best wishes and greetings to His Majesty King Hussein Ibn Talal. I wish the King health and happiness and progress and prosperity for the Jordanian people. What gives special importance to this great occasion is that it comes after 33 years of the King's rule of Jordan which is linked through unique relations with the Palestine problem and which has the longest confrontation lines with the Israeli enemy. This country has offered a lot of sacrifices in this confrontation with the Israeli enemy. It is not a mere coincidence that the Israeli enemy places Jordan among the first Arab states which can be subjected to Israeli international terrorism. I seize this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to the King for his efforts to serve his people and the common Arab action and to bolster solidarity among Arab countries specially in national security and comprehensive development. King Hussein represents an important and brilliant personality that



commits him to Arab causes, particularly manifested in the Arab economic summit which took place in Amman, and which linked the Arab World's security with development. This summit, chaired by King Hussein, was a landmark, lighting the path for Arab action. I congratulate the King on this happy occasion.

## President Zia Ul Haq of Pakistan

I deem it an honour to extend on behalf of the government and people of Pakistan and on my behalf our heartfelt felicitations for His Majesty King Hussein Ibn Talal of Jordan on this special occasion and pray to God to grant His Majesty a long and happy life and bestow on the Hashemite Kingdom his infinite blessings. Amen.  
It has been my proud privilege to have cherished a personal friendship with His Majesty for the last 15 years and I have been profoundly impressed with his eminent qualities of head and heart. The phenomenal progress achieved by Jordan in the last three decades of His Majesty's benign rule bears testimony to his abiding concern for the welfare of his people.



The Middle East has unfortunately remained a volatile area of strife, bloodshed and wars. In the wake of these persistent crises, His Majesty has stood like a rock, an embodiment of an exceptional personal courage. It is a tribute to his strong leadership that Jordan has remained a source

## King Juan Carlos of Spain

Your Majesty, my brother, the celebration of your 50th birthday gives me the opportunity to express my heartfelt congratulations on behalf of my country, my government, my family and myself. I pray to God to bless you, Your Majesty, with good health, strength and many years to serve the ideals of the Jordanian nation.  
Your expression of understanding and brotherhood, your aim of peace in the world and special efforts in your region inspire profound admiration in those of us who are fortunate to have known you for many years and I am honoured with your sincere friendship.



To me, Your Majesty represents beyond doubt a man of qualities which evoke respect and esteem among your friends in any part of the world. I trust that Your

Majesty's tenacity, constancy and sacrifice will grant you a reward of peace, welfare and happiness for the people of Jordan.  
With deep affection, congratulations Your Majesty, my brother.

## President Kenan Evren of Turkey

I offer my brother His Majesty King Hussein my heartfelt congratulations on his 50th birthday. I wish His Majesty and his family health, long life and happiness.  
Under the wise leadership of King Hussein, Jordan has today become a respectable country, achieving progress in every field. We feel Jordan's friendship in every international field and I am happy with the deep, friendly relationship between Jordan and Turkey, two brotherly nations.  
I deeply appreciate King Hussein's contributions to further strengthen this friendship. I believe that talks we conduct between our two countries contribute to a great extent towards new horizons of friendship between us. I am quite happy with the King's views which are based on long and deep experience of the region's problems and various international problems.  
I express my heartfelt wishes for



the King's efforts to achieve success and hope he will achieve his goals and realise happiness and progress for his country. On the occasion of his birthday I would like to convey to him on behalf of the Turkish people and on my behalf best wishes for him and his people.

## President Ronald Reagan of the United States

I am honoured to congratulate my dear friend His Majesty King Hussein on the occasion of his 50th birthday. King Hussein has lived and inspired the people of Jordan for more than 30 years. During that time he has been a valued colleague and trusted friend to me and my predecessors. Under his wise and courageous leadership, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has come to play a forceful, responsible role in the affairs of the Middle East and in the world. Our countries and peoples have enjoyed an exceptionally warm relationship and for all of us the people of the U.S. are grateful to and admire King Hussein. The U.S. and Jordan share many common goals not the least of which is a commitment to a peaceful resolution of the many problems between Israel and its Arab neighbours. King Hussein, demonstrating great courage has clearly and publicly made that commitment. Our countries are both working to resolve the complex issues which impede progress on peace negotiations. Our mutual goal is a just and durable peace which meets the needs of all the peoples in the region. The path towards peace, and no one knows better than King Hussein, is difficult and fraught with danger. Yet, King Hussein has moved steadily and courageously forward in the search for a negotiated settlement for the Middle East conflict. The U.S. is trying to play a constructive role in this process. We are deeply moved by the sincerity and tenacity King Hussein has demonstrated in the search for peace and justice. Over the last three decades, the friendship between Jordan and the U.S. has been a boon to our both peoples.



We have worked together to bolster peace, security and economic progress, and we have been pleased to join in with Jordan in strengthening the many educational and cultural ties which pull our two people together. Let us pray that, in the future, our countries and peoples will be even closer.  
Once again I would like to express my congratulations to His Majesty King Hussein on this happy occasion and offer my best wishes for the future to him and to the Jordanian people.



## Chinese President Li Xiannian

On the 50th birthday of His Majesty King Hussein I, on behalf of the Chinese government and people and in my name, congratulate King Hussein, Jordan and China, both Third World nations, are friends and have been so since the establishment of diplomatic relations between them. They both cherish mutual respect for each other and their friendly relations have been progressing very well on the road to cooperation in various fields. During Your Majesty's two visits to China, we have enhanced the deep friendship and strengthened our bilateral relations and contributed to their development.  
In March, 1984 my wife and I were honoured to visit your country and were met with a warm welcome and were treated with hospitality and respect by the Jordanian people, government and King. This has left a wonderful impression on us as we came to know the deep friendship of Your Majesty, and the friendship of the Jordanian people, towards the Chinese people.



Your Majesty is a prominent statesman in the Arab World and I am pleased to point out that the Jordanian people under your leadership have worked hard and with complete loyalty to accomplish a major success, particularly in construction, defence and national economy.  
In foreign affairs, Jordan has been committed to the policy of better cooperation with Third World nations in general and Arab countries in particular, and

with comprehensive friendship with other nations of the world. This has won Jordan noted appreciation in the international community.  
I sincerely hope that the Jordanian government and people will make further contributions to realise more accomplishments for Jordan, in preserving world peace and upholding just causes, particularly the rights of the Palestinian people.  
King Hussein is a respected friend of the Chinese people. I personally feel proud of his true friendship which grows with the days and the farther apart we are, the closer we are drawn together.  
I seize this opportunity to express my best wishes to Your Majesty for health and long life and prosperity and progress for the friendly Jordanian people and eternal friendship between the Jordanian and Chinese peoples.

## French President Francois Mitterrand

I am pleased to convey to Your Majesty my warmest wishes and to express best wishes to you personally and the Jordanian people which is linked closely with your family and yourself. Thanks to your work and activities, the Jordanian people have achieved remarkable progress. Today your country plays a valuable role in international affairs. Your Majesty's constant efforts in the search for peace deserve profound respect from France and the whole world. My country follows up with deep interest your efforts and will not stop supporting them in the search for a just and durable settlement for the Middle East conflict through negotiations and mutual respect for the sake of preserving the rights of all countries. As for me, every meeting with Your Majesty has been rich with experience and has given me the chance to better appreciate your vision and your views of the future and your determination to serve peace. I repeat that France will always be ready to contribute to the development of your country, economically and socially. Our



## President Richard Von Weizsacker of West Germany

The 50th birthday of King Hussein is a special occasion for his people and for all his friends. We think of King Hussein with great respect and gratitude. I remember very well my visit to Jordan earlier this year and I think of his hospitality and his friendship and the friendship of the Jordanian people. I do respect the great economic and social achievements of his countrymen. I know how much he is struggling in the direction of peace in this great influence in the Middle East, and I do hope that he will have success with his peace initiatives. May I congratulate him on his birthday and may I wish him, in view of his great courage and his wonderful conception, all the best for him and



for a peaceful future for his people.

## President Cossiga of Italy

I am delighted on this occasion which Jordan Television has offered me to salute you, Your Majesty, on your birthday. I convey to you my best wishes on the occasion. Relations between Italy and Jordan are marked with mutual respect. Our friendship has facilitated our mutual cooperation and development of relations in all fields. This model of our constructive relationship has benefited both of our countries a great deal. No doubt your wise leadership and guidance have illuminated the way for Jordan's foreign policy. The Italian people appreciate Your Majesty's wisdom and courage and far-sightedness, which marked Jordan's policies over the past years. The recent peace initiatives forged by Jordan are designed to find a solution for all the problems of the Middle East, and they further enhance the concept about Jordan's moderate policies towards peace. Therefore, I am happy to express to Your Majesty my best wishes for the success of your endeavours and those of your family and the Jordanian people. I wish you happiness and progress and prosperity for your people and family.



## British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher

Sir, on the occasion of your 50th birthday, I send my warmest greetings and congratulations to Your Majesty. I have frequently had the pleasure of welcoming Your Majesty to 10 Downing Street for many talks over the last six years. Always they have been constructive and valuable, and I have been so impressed by Your Majesty's determination to do your best for the people of Jordan and the Arab people as a whole, and Your Majesty's courage to overcome whatever obstacles you may have found in your way.  
You have impressed every one as a statesman of world rank and so it was a great pleasure for me to come to Jordan recently to see the people of Jordan, the proud people of Jordan, and to see how strongly we felt over the special links we have with them and the very great friendship we feel for them. I came back with the impression of



## United Nation's Secretary General Peres de Cuellar

Since becoming secretary general of the United Nations I have had on several occasions the privilege of meeting His Majesty King Hussein. These meetings have always been for me, not only very useful, but also enriching. My visit to Jordan last year was a memorable occasion and I was truly impressed to know the important strides taken by Jordan in economic and social fields under His Majesty's leadership. In the international community, King Hussein is known as a man of the highest principles and a staunch supporter of the United Nations. As a secretary general, I am most grateful for His Majesty's long standing support for our organisation. I am most impressed by His Majesty's dedication to a peaceful resolution of the Middle East



## Australia's Prime Minister Robert Hawke

It gives me great pleasure to send on behalf of the Australian government and people warm greetings and best wishes to His Majesty King Hussein on the occasion of his 50th birthday. Since His Majesty's visit to Australia in 1976, relations between our two countries have developed significantly. Diplomatic missions have been established between us and high level visits have been exchanged. His Majesty's visit to Australia in 1976 was followed by that of Crown Prince Hassan in 1977. The minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Hayden, visited Jordan in 1984 on a tour of the Middle East and the speaker of the house of representatives of the Australian Parliament, Dr. Jenkins, visited Jordan earlier this year. While formal close links between our countries are relatively recent, your country has always been a great source of interest for Australians. This is reflected in the involvement of Australians in the excavation of Jordan's important archaeological past. More recently links between our two countries were strengthened by our common agricultural experience.



## Austria's President Rudolf Kirschlager

Over the years I have been closely linked with His Majesty King Hussein. It has been a profound relationship and I am proud of the fine qualities of the King based on his modesty and wisdom and his simple way of explaining problems in a quiet but successful manner. My relationship with the King is also based on the admiration I cherish for him and for his wisdom, a rare thing among world leaders. His policy is based on moderation and patience with which he commands the affairs of his country with courage. This will yield the best results for his country. King Hussein's policies have contributed towards the peace process in the Middle East. I have faith that he will make further contributions for peace in the future.



Therefore, I consider this opportunity a source of pleasure for me to congratulate the King on his birthday and convey my best wishes to him on the occasion.







LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.422737	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.37723777	Canadian dollars
	2.621525	West German marks
	2.950515	Dutch guilders
	2.146878	Swiss francs
	53.1924	Belgian francs
	7.990050	French francs
	1770/1771	Italian lire
	203.95204.05	Japanese yen
	7.86508700	Swedish crowns
	7.86708720	Norwegian crowns
	9.47704825	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	323.60324.10	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed mixed but with falls in the majority as recent high levels attracted profit-taking. At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was up 0.7 at 1,404.6 having touched a record 1,410.4 initially.

ICI ended unchanged at 699p after 701, and Glaxo lost a 10p gain to close unchanged at 1,535. B.P. was 15p up at 585 after an upward revision of its North Sea Forties field oil reserves.

Dealers said Metal Box dipped 22p to 526 having disappointed the market by reporting lower half-year results than expected. Gold shares were dull and North Americans declined.

Government bonds closed with gains ranging to about 1/4 point in small turnover. Dealers said news that the U.K. public sector repaid £276 million in October prompted a mark-up of 1/4 point but little follow through support was noted.

Profit-taking left insurances mixed with Royal 9p off at 771. Bank closed narrowly higher.

Speculative demand accounted for gains of 8p in Ultramar at 223 and 10p in British Home Stores at 348. Courtaulds eased 4p to 163 ahead of interim results. Scottish and Newcastle Breweries was 5p off at 171 after its final bid for Matthew Brown up 2p at 542.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

**FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, NOV. 19, 1985**

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** The morning brings resentments or obstacles in the path of your desires, which can prevent the accomplishments that you wish to achieve. The day gets better later.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19):** A responsibility can deter your progress in the morning, but later you can go after personal wishes in a positive way.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20):** An outside partner could take your time in the morning, but later you can catch up on your routines easily.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21):** Handle the duties ahead of you early. Later you can go to new places and make better plans for the future.

**MOONCHILDREN (June 22 to July 21):** You have important work to do in the morning, so don't run off on some silly tangent. Be enthusiastic and accomplish a lot.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21):** Gently handle home affairs early, and then be off to do whatever partners expect of you. Handle any public affairs with wisdom.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22):** You had better continue with that specialized work ahead of you and don't go dashing off higher and on.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22):** In the morning, handle that important monetary affair, then you will have time to enjoy recreation with friends.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21):** You may be so busy in the outside world that you forget something important at home.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21):** Rid yourself of some worry and then get busy at worthwhile activities that can make your life richer and happier.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20):** One who likes to waste your time should be discouraged early so that you can handle property affairs well.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19):** The aspects are fine for gaining your personal aims, provided you get rid of outside restrictions first.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20):** Handle that new enterprise and then be with a good adviser who is very helpful to you. Be more thoughtful of your mate.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY...** He or she will act in a most unpredictable way and be very interesting to others since this is a New Era product and should be encouraged and sent to modern schools. The big success here can come through the most modern way of operating.

Jordan Finance Consortium opens office in Amman

AMMAN (R) — The London-based Jordan Finance Consortium (JFC) has opened a representative office in Amman to serve its shareholders and local businessmen, its Amman representative, Mr. Ibrahim Khalaf, said Monday.

The consortium would also be happy to share in business opportunities in the Jordanian market involving government projects, he told Reuters.

The central bank and 14 other Jordanian banks and finance houses are shareholders in the consortium, which received Bank of England permission to take deposits last October.

JFC, which has authorised capital of £20 million (\$28 million), half of it paid up, opened a retail office in London last August.

Mr. Khalaf said he did not think it would open further offices for the time being, adding: "We would like to build up a very strong image and a good reputation. This is our main objective."

The government, through the central bank, has a 20 per cent equity in JFC, set up to help trade financing and provide banking services for the Arab community in Britain.

USSR considers commercial links with Lebanon, Gulf

KUWAIT (R) — The Soviet Union is considering a commercial agreement with Lebanon, a Soviet trade official said in an interview here.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Grishin Ivan told the daily Al Watan newspaper talks were under way to sign a commercial accord with Lebanon "taking into account its circumstances." He did not elaborate.

Mr. Ivan added Moscow also wanted to develop trade with Gulf Arab states "now that we have political relations with a third Gulf Country."

The Soviet Union and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) said last Thursday they would establish diplomatic links, barely two months after Oman took a similar step.

Until then, Kuwait had for many years been the only member of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to have such ties. Other GCC members are Bahrain, the UAE, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

Moscow also has relations with Iran and Iraq.

Mr. Ivan, who left Sunday after a four-day visit, signed a trade and economic cooperation agreement with Kuwait last Thursday.

Mr. Ivan told Al Watan he hoped economic relations with Kuwait would be raised to the level of political ties.

"The trade agreement between the two countries will provide the basis to push trade exchange... I hope Kuwait will seek more of its needs from the Soviet Union."

Diplomatic sources say there has been little non-military trade between the two sides, despite their longstanding ties.

Moscow, however, is a major arms supplier to the emirate and last year clinched an arms deal reported by the local press to be worth up to \$325 million.

Bangladeshi journalists threaten indefinite strike

DHAKA (Agencies) — More than 5,000 journalists and newspaper workers will start an indefinite strike from Nov. 30 unless the Bangladesh government accepts their demands for higher pay, the Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) said Monday.

"We have given the government enough time to sit with us and solve problems, but our appeal fell on deaf ears. We are left with no other choice now," DUJ General Secretary Shahjahan Mia told Reuters.

All newspapers and news agencies in Bangladesh were shut Monday by a 24-hour strike called after talks with Information Minister Shah Moazzem Hossain broke down Sunday night.

The minister told journalist leaders he would consider their demands after the South Asian regional cooperation summit, due in Dhaka on Dec. 7 and 8.

Newspapers in Bangladesh were also closed for 26 days last July over a pay dispute.

University teachers strike for higher pay.

Meanwhile, teachers at Bangladesh's six universities boycotted classes, rallied and marched Monday to demand higher pay and increased spending on education.

Professor Amatul Islam, president of the Bangladesh University Teachers' Association Federation, told the Associated Press that 2,000 university teachers had joined the 24-hour strike.

At a rally at the Dhaka University teacher-student centre, the federation said teachers would strike again in December if the government did not accept its demands.

A declaration adopted at the rally by teachers from all six universities said the federation also would stage a sit-in in front of the presidential palace next month — three days before the scheduled opening of the summit.

The heads of government of India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan and the Maldives are to meet to launch the South Asian regional cooperation, which seeks to pool the economic and technical resources of the region to improve the living standards of its one billion people.

President Hussain Mohammad Ershad told a meeting Sunday that certain opposition elements were trying to create chaos before the summit.

Egypt postpones decision to award contracts for two nuclear reactors

CAIRO (R) — Egypt, determined to go ahead with a costly nuclear energy programme despite financial strains, has put off until February awarding contracts for its first two reactors, Electricity Minister Maher Abaza said Monday.

He told Reuters that West European and U.S. firms bidding for the two 1,000-megawatt plants had agreed to an Egyptian request for a further three-month extension of their bids, ending on Feb. 25.

The contracts, worth about \$2.4 billion, were due to have been awarded last May 1. But Egypt was not ready to decide and the companies agreed to extend their offers for six months.

Bidders for the two plants, to be built west of Alexandria on the Mediterranean, are West Germany's Kraftwerk Union, a consortium led by France's Framatome, and Bechtel and Westinghouse, both of the United States.

"We are not facing financial problems. It is just that we have received so much data from the bidders that it is taking us a long time to study and make a decision," Mr. Abaza said in a telephone interview. "It is the last extension we shall seek."

Mr. Esmat Ali Hassan, deputy chairman of the Nuclear Power Authority, told Reuters that financial, legal and technical experts were in the final stages of reviewing the bids.

Egypt announced plans to generate more than 25 per cent of its energy from nuclear power five years ago. The aim was to meet growing demand for electricity and make more oil, a major foreign currency earner, available for export.

Electricity demand is rising by nearly 14 per cent a year and current output of some 30 kilowatt-hours a year will have to be tripled by the year 2000 to meet anticipated demand.

Mr. Abaza said a special fund of \$700 to \$900 million remained intact for use when contracts are awarded in February.

But Western diplomats monitoring the project felt the government may have used some of the money to offset a recent decline in hard currency earnings from oil remittances from Egyptians working abroad and state Suez Canal revenues.

They said Egypt, in awarding the contracts, will have to shake a down-payment totalling 35 per cent of the cost and would also have to service loans for the project until the mid-1990s, when construction will be complete.

They said finance packages arranged by the bidders would be jeopardised by further delay in awarding contracts. The firms had already faced difficulties in getting banks and government bodies to continue their financial backing.

Former W. German minister goes on trial for misappropriating government money

BONN (R) — Former minister for inter-German affairs, Mr. Egon Franke, went on trial Monday charged with misappropriating government money, which he says was spent on secret deals to buy political prisoners out of East Germany.

Mr. Franke, 72, a Social Democrat, and his former chief aide, Mr. Edgar Hirt, are accused jointly of misappropriating ministry funds of 5.56 million marks (\$2.12 million) and of destroying or suppressing documents to hide where it went.

Mr. Hirt, 48, is also accused of misappropriating 460,000 marks (\$175,000) he is alleged to have paid to a lawyer involved in an East-West spy swap, according to prosecutors.

Both men face jail terms of up to five years if convicted by the Bonn district court on charges of breach of trust involving public funds.

The money went missing between 1979 and 1982. Mr. Franke headed the ministry for 13 years from 1969.

Mr. Franke and Mr. Hirt maintain that the money was used to buy freedom in the West for political prisoners in Communist East German jails, under deals too secret to be documented.

"All the money was spent for humanitarian purposes," Mr. Hirt told reporters Monday. "I shall present concrete examples which will demonstrate this," he said.

West German governments since the 1960s have paid large sums to East Berlin to secure the release of what Bonn considers political prisoners, but the highly sensitive practice is never discussed publicly by officials.

Much of the evidence at Mr. Franke's trial will be heard behind closed doors. An inter-German affairs ministry official observing the proceedings was told by the presiding judge Monday to interrupt whenever he believed secrets could be divulged.

Public prosecutors opened investigations against Mr. Franke and Mr. Hirt in 1983 after a parliamentary control commission declared there had been "gross budgetary violations" at the inter-German affairs ministry during Mr. Franke's tenure.

Mr. Franke, who is still a member of parliament, is the third former cabinet minister after Economics Minister Otto-Labhardt and Hans Friderichs to stand trial in Bonn this year on criminal charges relating to their periods in office.

The trial was adjourned for one week after the reading of the indictment.

Peking, Seoul boost secret trade relations

SEOUL — If Western businessmen have dreams about making profits in China's huge market, South Koreans are surely drunk with love. The fruit is all the sweeter because for South Koreans it is forbidden, only enjoyed in secret, and the attraction is plainly irresistible.

This year, despite the fact that direct trade between China and South Korea is illegal, China will become one of South Korea's major trading partners, ranking in a second tier behind Japan and the U.S. roughly on par with Hong Kong, Germany and the U.K.

Major companies in every industry from electronics to construction engineering are mapping out plans to further exploit the market, not just with trade but when the political environment allows, with long-range investments and technical tie-ups in China.

Underneath the glass-topped coffee table of one car industry executive is a map of China, with six provinces outlined in red, marking the source of dozens of inquiries. Construction companies are itching to join in China's infrastructural development, a field in which they have gained much experience at home and in the Middle East.

In the first six months of the year, indirect trade between China and South Korea via Hong Kong rose 125 per cent over 1984, according to Hong Kong government statistics.

The Hong Kong route is believed to account for under half of all trade, and some diplomats estimate that total trade this year could reach \$1.5 billion, depending on the effect of China's foreign exchange squeeze.

The trade is weighted heavily in Korea's favour, with exports from South Korea via Hong Kong rising by 326 per cent to reach \$222 million in a year when declining exports slowed Korea's first-half economic growth to 3.2 per cent.

China trade has helped keep Korea factories busy and hold down unemployment.

As of June, China sold to South Korea via Hong Kong \$39.5 million of raw materials, including \$31.7 million of textile fibres, and \$41.9 million of textiles and yarns.

South Korea sold to China \$63.6 million dollars of yarns and fabrics, as well as \$67.2 million of electronic goods, including televisions and radios, and \$41.2 million of electrical machinery.

The increase in trade volume is matched by maturing conditions under which Koreans and Chinese conduct business. In past years, the two sides negotiated, sometimes anonymously, through Hong Kong intermediaries, and the Chinese at times broke off talks upon discovering that the buyer or seller was Korean.

Now Korean businessmen meet directly with Chinese officials to discuss business, place orders, determine delivery dates and negotiate prices. The routing of business through a third party is a mere formality, albeit an expensive one. Third-country ships ply directly between Korean and Chinese ports, and Korean businessmen from all the major trading companies have visited China to explore business opportunities.

South Korea recently appointed a new consul-general in Hong Kong, for the first time with the rank of ambassador.

In order to avoid attracting attention, Koreans deal through small Hong Kong companies, with individual deals in the \$1 million to \$10 million range — they have little recourse if anything goes wrong.

The small number of Koreans privy to Daewoo's secret joint venture with China are watching keenly to see if Daewoo blazes a trail to stable, expanding business ties.

South Koreans clearly remember 1982, when North Korea complaints prompted China to cut down severely on imports from South Korea. South Korea's sales through Hong Kong fell from \$145 million in 1981 to \$56 million in 1982.

On May 30, Samsung Corporation, believed to have the biggest slice of the market with some 60 per cent of the electronics trade, ran a large advertisement in the China Daily. It was the first time any South Korean company had successfully purchased advertising in a Chinese newspaper.

The advertisement made no mention of Samsung's nationality, but the China Daily abruptly cancelled, without explanation, a scheduled second and third run of the advertisement. It is presumed that North Korea raised objections.

A recent report by the Korea Institute for Economics and Technology warned that a marriage of Japanese technology with cheap Chinese labour could eventually undercut the competitiveness of Korean exports.

Financial Times news feature.

THE Daily Crossword by Jo Lundy

ACROSS

1 — Best touch

5 — Kaffee

8 — No ends, tie

13 — Take — from

14 — Ancient city

15 — Curved

16 — Workshop item

20 — Drilling tool

22 — Monogram of

23 — Electric

24 — Lorry

25 — Most modern

29 — Escape

30 — Drifts

31 — Measuring wand

36 — He came from

37 — Tennis

37 — Secret agents

38 — Corbin beast

39 — Shared with

40 — Take a chance

DOWN

1 — Gentle one

2 — Roman road

3 — Kind of bread

4 — Lesser than

5 — The first

6 — Purloin

8 — Song of praise

7 — Angered

9 — Part of speech

9 — Neckwear

10 — Phoebe

11 — Mollars

12 — What show

13 — Weaver's reed

19 — Given way

21 — Shoe width

25 — Family reunion

26 — Kind of life

27 — Small case

28 — Of a kind

29 — Flattened

30 — Drafting

32 — Aun

33 — Butler-Lytton

34 — Shank

35 — Ring results

37 — Scotts

40 — Overcast

44 — Alarm bell

45 — Indecent

46 — Ready money

47 — Dem city

48 — Duffs of song

52 — Exclamation

53 — Full

54 — Island group

55 — Loose garment

56 — Gave to the

58 — Poet

59 — Fall

60 — Summer, Fr.

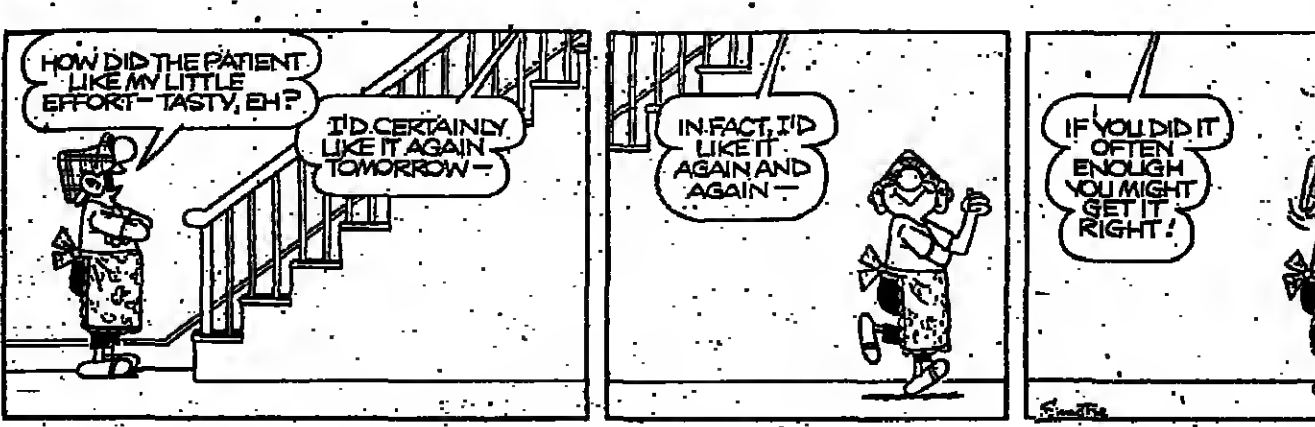
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



**THE BETTER HALF.** By Harris

"I signed us up for one of those new discount phone services."

**JUMBLE.** THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By Henri Arnold and Bob Lico

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

IRQUE

GOBUM

FOLFAY

CHURCO

DID THE X-RATED MOVIE MAKE ANY MONEY?

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "O O O O - O O O O"

(Answers Modified)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PROBE USURY STRONG MUTTON

Answer: How he worked his way "down" in the world — FROM BOTTOMS "UP"



# Liberia recalls envoy from Sierra Leone

**ABIDJAN (R)** — Liberia has announced the recall of its ambassador to Sierra Leone after accusing its neighbour of involvement in last week's failed coup attempt.

Radio Elwa, a private Liberian station monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), said Sunday night that military leader Samuel Doe had announced the recall of the envoy and the closure of the Liberia-Sierra Leone border.

Gen. Doe has accused Sierra Leone of direct involvement in Tuesday's coup attempt, which was led by Brig. Gen. Thomas Kruwinka.

According to Gen. Doe, Gen. Kruwinka's rebel troops were trained and armed in Sierra Leone before crossing to Liberia.

Sierra Leone has denied involvement and in a statement three days ago it dissociated itself from any step which could destabilise Liberia.

Gen. Doe's accusations mark the worst crisis in relations between the two West African states since he sent troops to the border

in 1983, after a Sierra Leone newspaper incorrectly accused him of killing his wife.

Meanwhile, uncertainty still surrounded the fate of leading Liberian opposition politicians.

There was no news on politicians who opposed Gen. Doe in a controversial election last month.

Gen. Doe has said that they are detained for their own protection, but he told diplomats on Friday night that one of his opponents, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf of the Liberia Action Party (LAP), had helped finance the coup attempt.

The United States, Liberia's biggest aid donor, has said it remains concerned about the fate of those arrested.

Gen. Doe's opponents have said that the presidential elections in October were rigged and many believe that the true winner was the LAP's Jackson Doe.

During the few hours that Gen. Juiwunkpa was in apparent control of the Liberian capital Monrovia he pledged to hold what he termed fair elections.

Gen. Juiwunkpa, who helped Gen. Doe seize power in Liberia's first military coup in April 1980, was shot dead by a bodyguard of Gen. Doe's last Friday.

Radio Elwa Sunday urged all Liberian schools and the University of Liberia in Monrovia to open Monday. But there was still no indication of when telecommunications and air links with the rest of the world would be restored.

Gen. Doe, moving in the wake of the abortive coup to crush political opponents who claimed they defeated him in last month's presidential election, called diplomats to the executive mansion Saturday to hear a captured rebel say officials of the Liberia Action Party financed last Tuesday's thwarted coup.

The Maj.-Gen. also told the diplomats that Cubans aided in what he called an invasion launched from neighbouring Sierra Leone.

## Winnie Mandela condemns U.S. policy

**CAPE TOWN (R)** — Black nationalist leader Winnie Mandela will tell Americans this week that the U.S. administration's "constructive engagement" policy towards South Africa is a failure.

In a speech to be read in her absence when she receives a U.S. Human Rights Award on Wednesday, Mrs. Mandela attacks President Reagan's policy of pressing for reform through diplomacy.

"Active engagement has failed miserably," she says in the speech she has released to the media here. "The U.S. government condemns us to 20th Century slavery by echoing the programmes of the racist regime."

Mrs. Mandela will not be allowed to leave the country to accept the Robert Kennedy Humanitarian Award to be bestowed jointly upon her and two other

South African campaigners against apartheid.

She is currently defying an order from Pretoria to return to internal exile in the isolated Orange Free State town of Brandfort.

Winnie Mandela's speech compares the current trials for treason of South African anti-apartheid activists with the attacks in Britain 195 years ago on American Tom Paine, accused of sedition for advocating mass suffrage. He went to France before he could be tried.

Blacks "asked no more than the right of each person to have one vote," she said. "Your (American) government has taken the view that our liberation will be a setback to your own sphere of influence."

"We find the suffering of the oppressed more and more unbearable. The South African regime has declared war on children."

Some young as seven are in detention. They are supposed to be a danger to the racist regime," Mrs. Mandela said.

She spoke of "the savage public face of the regime in action" which world media reported until a recent ban by Pretoria on film and photographic coverage of violent protests.

More than 800 people have died in unrest over the past year, and nearly 6,000 people have been detained under emergency laws. More than 1,000 are still being held, police say.

"What happened and still happens in the privacy of prisons and detention camps is a story of unmitigated brutality," Mrs. Mandela said. "Children emerge (from detention) with terrifying stories... and crippled limbs and staring eyes."

## S. Korean police arrest 185 students

**SEOUL (R)** — Protesting students set on fire an office of South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan's ruling party Monday before being overpowered by hundreds of riot police, witnesses said.

The 185 students occupied the two-storey training centre of the Democratic Justice Party for six hours, keeping police at bay by splashing petrol on the building and setting it alight.

Riot police finally fired tear gas before rushing in to arrest the students. Witnesses said police kicked, punched and dragged students by the hair before hustling them away.

Firemen managed to get the fire under control only after the whole of the second storey had been burned. One student was seriously injured when he jumped from the roof of the building, witnesses said.

Another received head wounds when he was hit by a tear gas canister and two policemen and a fireman were injured by stones thrown by students.

The students, who also hurled fire bombs and brandished wooden clubs, were demanding Mr. Chun's resignation and an end to U.S. support for his government.

## U.S. Nobel physician defends Soviet colleague

**BONN (R)** — The American head of the Nobel Peace Prize-winning "Doctors Against Nuclear War" group has accused a top West German politician of coming close to Nazi propaganda to discredit his Soviet associate.

Bernard Lown, who chairs the East-West group with Soviet surgeon Yevgeny Chazov, was responding to claims by Heiner Geissler, general secretary of the ruling Christian Democratic Union, that Dr. Chazov sanctioned Soviet human rights abuses.

Dr. Lown told the Hanover Neue Presse, in an interview published Monday, that the charges came "close to the propaganda Germans suffered under in a past period."

He said the accusations were "just as ridiculous as if I were to hold Geissler responsible for the Nazi era and the burning of the Jews."

Mr. Geissler charged that Dr. Chazov, a deputy health minister, had joined in official moves to defame dissident Andrei Sakharov, a peace prize laureate, and banish him into internal exile.

He wrote to the Nobel Com-

mittee in Oslo last week urging it not to present Dr. Chazov with the prize because "this would be a mockery of millions of people who support human rights."

Dr. Chazov and Dr. Lown are due to receive the award on behalf of the group, officially known as International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in Oslo on Dec. 10.

Mr. Geissler alleged that Dr. Chazov had signed a resolution by the Soviet Academy of Medical Sciences against Sakharov in 1973 that was an important basis for the physicist's "intimidation, defamation and deprivation of liberty."

He also accused Dr. Chazov as a member of the Soviet leadership of co-responsibility for the invasion of Afghanistan.

Dr. Lown said he knew no other doctor who was as devoted to his work and to human values as Dr. Chazov.

The opposition Social Democrats have condemned Mr. Geissler's attack as cynical and monstrous and said it would damage West Germany's international prestige.

## China accuses Moscow of attacks on Pakistan

**PEKING (R)** — Chinese President Li Xiaonan accused the Soviet Union Monday of backing Afghan air and artillery attacks against Pakistan's territory and described the Kabul government as a puppet Soviet regime.

Mr. Li told a delegation headed by Pakistan's Prime Minister Muhammad Khan Junejo that its North West Frontier province was now subjected to air raids and shelling from across the border with Afghanistan.

"All these kinds of actions are carried out with the support of the Soviet Union," he said at the start of a meeting in Peking's Great Hall of the People.

Turning to journalists and television cameras, he added: "The Kabul regime in Afghanistan is in fact a puppet regime of the Soviet Union."

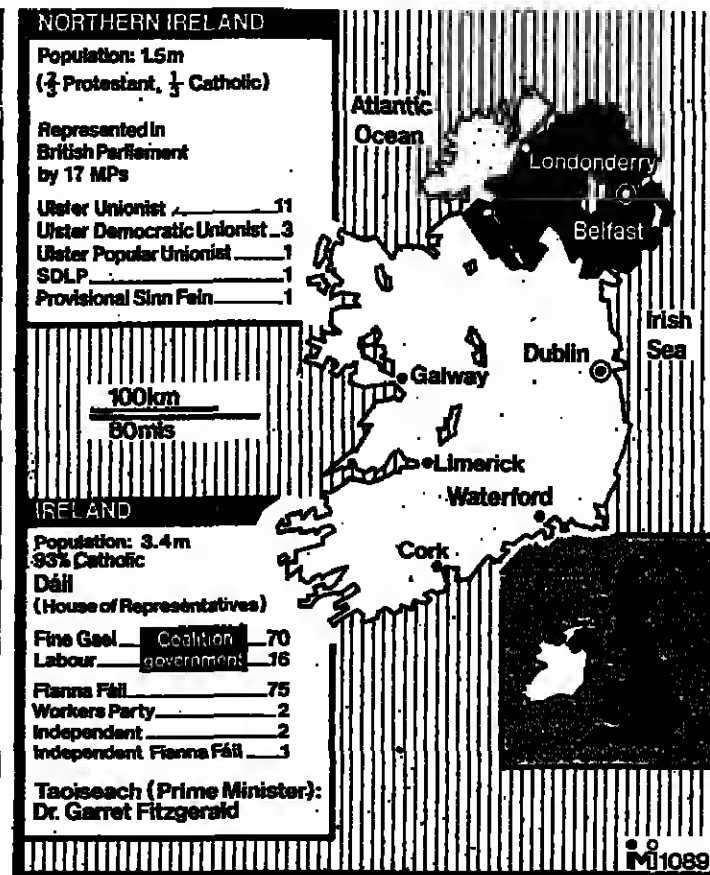
Western diplomats said Mr. Li's comments were a public reaffirmation of China's support for Pakistan in demanding the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

They said some Pakistani officials had become uneasy because earlier this year China played down its opposition to the Soviet presence in Afghanistan in order not to complicate a visit to Peking by Soviet First Deputy Premier Ivan Arkhipov.

Mr. Junejo told Chinese officials in a banquet speech Sunday night that air and artillery attacks from across the Afghan border were getting more serious every day and had killed hundreds of ordinary Pakistanis and Afghan refugees.

"We will not be intimidated. We will hold to our position of principle on this issue," he said. China aids Afghan refugees and foreign diplomats say it is also a major arms supplier to Pakistan.

Peking says Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan is one precondition for normalising its ties with Moscow. The others are an end to Soviet support for Vietnam's presence in Kampuchea and a reduction in Soviet military strength on China's borders.



## Thatcher called 'Jezebel' by Irish Protestants

**LONDON (AP)** — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in the House of Commons Monday faced the fury of Northern Ireland's 15 Protestant lawmakers, enraged by her historic pact to give the Irish Republic a say in the province.

One of the opponents, Democratic Unionist Party leader the Reverend Ian Paisley, denounced Mrs. Thatcher as the "Jezebel of Northern Ireland" from his Belfast pulpit Sunday night.

"I can only liken Mrs. Thatcher to Jezebel, who sought to destroy Israel in a day of grave national crisis," said Rev. Paisley, referring to the ruthless, wicked woman in the Biblical Old Testament.

But the fiery preacher said Protestants would not riot and fight the army and police. "We are

going to do this the constitutional way," he told his congregation.

The House of Commons session gave the Protestants their first chance to attack the accord signed Friday by Mrs. Thatcher and the Irish Republic's Prime Minister, Garret Fitzgerald. Both seek to bring peace to the Protestant-dominated North, where the overwhelmingly Roman Catholic IRA guerrillas fight British rule.

The Protestant legislators all belong to Unionist Parties, so called because they want to maintain the union with Britain as part of the United Kingdom. They fear that Britain will eventually hand the province over to the 95 per cent Catholic Republic across the border and they are determined to wreck the new pact.

## Indian parliament opens

**NEW DELHI, India (AP)** — Parliament opened its winter session Monday, with opposition lawmakers criticising Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Oman and demanding that he postpone a scheduled trip to Japan later this month.

The absence of Mr. Gandhi, who went to Oman Sunday on a two-day tour to attend the Gulf country's National Day celebrations, "violated the well-established principles of deference and respect to parliamentary institutions," charged L.K. Advani of the Bharatiya Janata (Indian People's) Party.

Mr. Gandhi's Finance Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh defended the visit, saying it was in the "national interest." The Upper House chairman, Vice President Ramaswamy Venkatarman, told lawmakers that although the prime minister normally should be present when parliament opened,

Mr. Gandhi made no "breach of privilege" by being absent.

Several opposition lawmakers demanded that Mr. Gandhi reschedule his visit to Japan beginning on Nov. 28, saying the prime minister should not make foreign trips when parliament is in session.

Mr. Gandhi's attitude would "lead to the weakening of parliamentary institutions," alleged K. Mohanan of the Marxist Communist Party.

Mr. Gandhi's Japan visit is aimed at obtaining Japanese technology for India's economic modernisation programmes. During the one-month winter session, lawmakers are expected to discuss and approve an ambitious, multi-billion-dollar economic blueprint proposed by Mr. Gandhi's government to combat poverty and achieve an annual growth rate of 5 per cent.

## 2 killed, 2 injured in Paris car park blast

**PARIS (R)** — Two men were killed when an explosion ripped their car apart in a central Paris underground car park and police said they could have been handling explosives at the time.

As forensic experts sifted through the wreckage in the fourth level of the Georges V car park in the Avenue Des Champs Elysees, a police spokesman identified the dead as a Frenchman and a Portuguese, but gave no names.

The explosion shattered the car they were sitting in and eyewitnesses said two people were slightly injured.

The spokesman said detectives

were investigating the possibility that the two men had been handling explosives which went off prematurely, but this could not be confirmed until later Monday.

The two dead were badly mutilated. Minutes after the blast police blocked off the busy Champs Elysees area as firemen fought for nearly an hour to extinguish the flames on other burning cars in the parking lot.

Cinemagoers and diners returning to collect their cars were questioned by detectives as forensic experts sifted through the wreckage.

## Greek riot police clear Athens university building

**ATHENS (R)** — Riot police Monday cleared an Athens university building occupied by anarchists after a demonstration Sunday in which police shot dead a youth.

Witnesses said riot police hurled tear gas into the university's chemistry school and used cranes to enter the building in central Athens.

Several people were detained for questioning but there were no immediate reports of any injuries, the Greek National News Agency ANA said.

Police said 50 anarchists took over the building overnight and

built barricades. Protesters said 200 anarchists were inside.

Four youths were detained following clashes Sunday with police after a student demonstration to mark the anniversary of the 1973 student revolt which helped to topple Greece's seven-year military dictatorship.

Police said they were investigating the death of the boy, Michael Kallazos, who was shot in the head by a policeman.

Anarchists smashed windows of two airline offices and a hotel Sunday after a march by an estimated 100,000 students to the American embassy.

## New Zealand completes ship-ban draft legislation

**WELLINGTON (R)** — New Zealand has completed drafting legislation permanently banning port calls by nuclear-powered or nuclear-armed warships, Prime Minister David Lange said Monday.

Mr. Lange told reporters he expected to examine the draft this week before referring it to government members of parliament and sending it to Washington and Canberra.

He said the law would be formally introduced into parliament in December before it recesses for the southern summer holidays.

Mr. Lange has said New Zealand will consider changes suggested by its ANZUS pact allies the United States and Australia if they do not affect its nuclear-free aims.

The Reagan administration has made clear that any move by New Zealand to enshrine its nuclear-free policy in law would worsen the already badly strained relations.

Washington cut most defence ties with Wellington after one of its destroyers was refused permission to enter New Zealand waters in February because the Pentagon would not say if it was carrying nuclear weapons.

The United States repeated warnings at the weekend that the proposed law could mean the end of the ANZUS treaty and New

Zealand's ally status.

Washington's envoy Gary Posz told an Air Force Veterans' Reunion in Auckland that New Zealand was not acting like a close ally and had curtailed the ability of the United States to operate in the South Pacific.

Mr. Lange said the draft law would be explained to Australian officials by Deputy Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer, who in September discussed the legislation in Washington with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Mr. Palmer is due to visit Canberra next month. A senior diplomat closely involved with drawing up the new law would take the draft to Washington and a copy would also be made available to Britain, Mr. Lange added.

Government officials told Reuters the law would ban the entry into New Zealand of all nuclear weapons and would establish a special body to determine whether visiting warships complied with the nuclear-free policy.

New Zealand has said it believed such a move would not compromise the long-standing U.S. doctrine of refusing to confirm or deny the presence of nuclear warheads, but Washington has previously rejected that interpretation.

**GOREN BRIDGE**

BY CHARLES GOREN AND CHAS SHARF  
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**WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ**

**Q.1**—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ K9872 ♠ A2 ♠ 10643  
Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?

**Q.2**—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ K9872 ♠ A2 ♠ 10643  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass Pass  
2 ♥ Pass ?  
What action do you take?

**Q.3**—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ 102 ♠ K9872 ♠ Q98 ♠ Q3  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass  
2 ♠ Pass ?  
What action do you take?

**Q.4**—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ J782 ♠ QJ853 ♠ 052 ♠ 4  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass  
1 ♠ Pass ?  
What action do you take?

**Q.5**—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ KQJ98 ♠ AKQ1098 ♠ A088  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♥ Pass  
10 1 ♠ 2 ♥ Pass  
? What do you bid now?

**Q.6**—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ KQJ98 ♠ AKQ782 ♠ 083  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♥ 2 ♥ 2 NT Pass  
3 ♠ Pass ?  
What action do you take?

## Pope beatifies Italian, Lebanese and German

**VATICAN CITY (R)** — Pope John Paul II beatified three people Sunday, including a Lebanese nun whose memory he said he hoped would inspire Lebanon to work toward "reconciliation and peace." In a ceremony in French, Italian and German at St. Peter's Basilica, Rebecca Ar Rayes of Himsaya, Lebanon, was beatified along with Karolina Gerhardsinger, a Bavarian nun, and Pio Campidelli, an Italian who died at age 21. Ar Rayes was a Maronite nun who died in her eighties in 1914 after a life of religious devotion. She was beatified for her noble country overflowing with suffering. John Paul said during the beatification, which is the last major step before possible sainthood.

## Civil servants banned from Rotary Club

**DHAKA (R)** — The Bangladesh government has issued an order banning civil servants from joining international service clubs like Rotary or the Lions. The order, circulated to all government offices, said the ban was necessary to stop "negligence of duty caused by widespread distraction." It said civil servants who were already members of Rotary, Lions, Apex and other international clubs must resign immediately and try to devote more time to government work. "The tendency to spend more time for the service clubs and less for the government must go once and for all," the order said. Bangladesh has about 200 international service clubs with a membership totalling 4,500, including 200 government officials, according to a government figure.

## Lovers smuggled from East Germany in removal van

**DRASENHOFEN, Austria (R)** — A lorry driver smuggled an East German woman and her Turkish lover from East Berlin to central Austria via Czechoslovakia in a removal van, border guards here said. Omer Faruk Ustuen, 51, a resident in the west of the divided city, and his fiancée Ilka Marion Leheld, 28, from East Berlin, climbed out of the van early on Saturday, they said. The two had spent hours in the unheated van crouching between pieces of furniture, they said. The nationality of the van driver was not immediately known, they said. Although checks on the Czechoslovak border with Austria are usually strict, guards apparently omitted to inspect the sealed van. "They were really lucky," an Austrian border guard told Reuters.

## Muslims call for ban on oral divorce

**NEW DELHI (R)** — Indian Muslim reformists and conservatives staged rival demonstrations this weekend as a debate raged over the state's power to overrule Muslim law. Demonstrators in western Maharashtra state marched on government offices in Jalgaon to demand a ban on Muslim "oral" divorce and bigamy, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said. At the same time in nearby Nagpur thousands of Muslims opposed to reform called on the government to exempt Muslims from Indian civil laws on marriage and divorce, the news agency reported. The demonstrations followed protests by some of India's 100 million Muslims over a supreme court ruling last April which put Indian civil law above Muslim law.

## Shanghai's oldest church reopens

**PEKING (R)** — The oldest Catholic Church in Shanghai, completed in 1853, has reopened after being closed for almost 20 years, the New China News Agency said Monday. It said more than 1,000 people attended a high mass at St. Francis Xavier Church Sunday, given by Louis Zhang Jianshu, 93, a member of the Patriotic Catholic Church set up by the government in the 1950's and not recognised by the Vatican. The church, a cathedral when it was built, was damaged during the Cultural Revolution of 1966-1976. It was repaired last year at a cost of 150,000 yuan (\$47,000). Shanghai now has 22 churches open to the public, the agency said.